

A
W A R N I N G
T O
G R E A T - B R I T A I N ,
I N A
S E R M O N

Preach'd at several CHURCHES in and about L O N D O N, upon the spreading of the PLAGUE in France, and now Publish'd for the BENEFIT of others.

To which is added an Appendix,
Containing AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNT of all the remarkable *Plagues, Pestilences and Famines* thro' the World, from the beginning to this time; with a large and particular Description of that at *Marseilles* and other Cities of F R A N C E; and several curious and useful Remarks upon them.

A Thing never yet attempted by any Hand.

The whole is ended with POPE GREGORY'S SERMON, Preach'd at Rome in the year 590, when a Pestilence destroy'd most of the Citizens.

When thy Judgments are in the Earth, the Inhabitants of the World will learn Righteousness. II. xxvi. 9.

Now the Axe is laid to the Root of the Tree: Therefore every Tree that bringeth not forth good Fruit is hewn down, and cast into the Fire. Mat. iv. 10.

In bello parante se homines ad resistendum, similiter in Fame: Ac cum peste affliguntur, solis precibus locus relinquitur. Pol. Synop. Crisis. in II. Sam. xxiv. 14.

By JAMES PATERSON A. M.

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(Price one Shilling.)

Sir *William Steuart*, Kt.

AND

LORD MAYOR

OF THE

CITY of *LONDON*.

MY LORD,

THE general Decay and Contempt of Probity and Piety in this Nation and City; and the apparent Danger we are in with respect to that dreadful *Plague* with which our neighbouring Nation is now visited, gave the first Birth to these Sheets. And if they are but useful either to awaken the Secure, to inform the Ignorant, to reform the Impenitent, or comfort them that tremble at God's Judgments, I have my Aim.

THE prudent Care of our Government in using all necessary Precautions to prevent the Infection among us, is certainly a very commendable and generous Undertaking. Notwithstanding we must always have a vigorous Recourse to the divine Protection and Goodness; and also a sincere Dependance upon him who is the sole Lord of Life and Death, and supreme Disposer of all Causes and Events whatsoever.

IN order to prevail with God to avert his dreadful Judgments from us, I have here endeavoured boldly to rebuke *Vice* and *Immorality*, which abound among us, as became a Servant of the *Holy Jesus*; to awaken Sinners, and convince

DEDICATION.

convince them of those Iniquities, which may deservedly draw down the Wrath of Heaven upon this Nation.

AN Attempt of this kind, how acceptable soever it may be to the Best, will doubtless meet with Opposition from the Worst; who like *GALLIO*, care for none of those things.

THEREFORE, MY LORD, I thought it my Duty to shelter this *Treatise* under your LORDSHIP'S Patronage; because YOUR LORDSHIP has ever been an Encourager of Piety and true Religion, most conspicuous for singular Prudence and exemplary Life, for many Acts of Charity, Liberality, and Goodness, and an impartial Administrator of Equity and Justice among us for many Years: And because by divine Providence you are now advanc'd to that High and Honourable Station in this Grand Metropolis, which is the Epitome of GREAT BRITAIN, where in the suppressing of Iniquity and Reformation of Manners, may be of singular Use to the whole.

THAT YOUR LORDSHIP may continue long to be a Terror to the Evil, and an Encouragement to the Good; and after a happy Life on Earth, may enjoy the Reward of your good Works in Heaven, is the earnest and hearty Prayer of,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Most humble,

and most obedient Servant,

JAMES PATERSON.



GEN. VI. 3.

And the Lord said, my Spirit shall not always strive with Man, for that he also is Flesh: Yet his Days shall be an Hundred and Twenty Years.



AS the Preservation and Salvation of Mankind is the Principal Design and Pleasure of Almighty God, so nothing is more grievous to him than their *Misery* and *Destruction*: Therefore *Judgment* is said *Is. 28. 21.* to be *his strange Work*. This appears in his transacting with the first Man, whom he endued with Grace sufficient to resist the Temptation, promised him temporal and eternal Happiness, and severely threatened him in case of Disobedience: But upon his *Fall* our compassionate Creator immediately provided a *Redeemer*. And likewise in his Dispen-
sations with the *Old World*, for he gave it several Warnings of its approaching Overthrow, and was very un-
*will-*ing to destroy it

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in

in that fearful manner: 'Twas after many repeated Provocations that he said, *my Spirit shall not always strive with Men.*

In which Words, a most terrible Threatning of * Divine Vengeance is express'd against the *Ante-diluvians*; and by God's Blessing they may do much Good to the secure, impenitent, and obstinate Sinners of this Age, as they were first uttered for the Conviction and Conversion of that impious and prophane Generation before the *Flood*: For that was (and this seems to be) so secure in Sin, that nothing less than the loud Sounding Trumpet of Wrath to come could awaken it.

I shall therefore from them shew you, what a Gracious, Long-suffering and Merciful God our Heavenly Father is; for he strives long with a wicked People before he takes Vengeance of them: He bears with a wretched Sinner a considerable time before he strikes home.

2dly, I shall shew, that God will not do always so, but he will at last pour out his Wrath, and exercise the Rigour of his Justice, upon all Abusers of his Mercy and Forbearance.

* Deus defessus mundi pervicacia & tædio affectus hoc dicit, *non contendet Spiritus meus in æternum*; i. e. longo tempore; non possum diutius ferre, non litigabo amplius, præsentem Vindictam exsequar. *Pal, Synop. Critic. in loc.*

3dly, I shall conclude with a necessary and earnest Exhortation to *Repentance* and *Reformation* of Life, while the Holy Spirit waits and strives with Men, before God's Mercy is quite gone, when he will wait no longer to be gracious.

In the first Place, we have a very plain Proof of God's *Patience* and *Longanimity* from this *Text*; for he had waited above a Thousand Years on the *Old World*, still expecting the good Fruits of Obedience and Gratitude from his late Handy-works; but alas! 'twas quite otherwise than he justly look'd for, they had degenerated altogether from that Original Innocence and Uprightness, into Pride, Violence, Contempt of Religion, Intemperance, Luxury, and all manner of Vice: Nay, they grew worse and worse, the more they increas'd, the more they sinn'd. One would think that God would be aveng'd of such a Generation, and destroy them in a moment; but behold! in the midst of such Provocations, when a Sentence might have deservedly past to cut them down, and send them to Hell and Misery; divine Goodness granted them another Date; his Patience extended to 120 Years more: And so long a Gracious God deferr'd the universal Destruction of Man and Beast by the *Deluge*; so long the *Spirit of God strove with that People*, waited on them, and us'd means for their Repentance. Behold! repeated Signs of God's great Kindness and Mercy: He gave

them sufficient means of Salvation, Time after Time, yet all this would not do.

This appears farther in all his Dispensations with *Jews* and *Gentiles* too in all succeeding Ages; for he was grieved with some of them forty years in the Wilderness; many times under their *Judges* and *Kings*. But *Pf. 95. 10.* *Pf. 78. 38.* *he being full of Compassion, forgave their Iniquity, destroyed them not; yea, many a time turned he his Anger away, and did not stir up all his Wrath: Or, as it is in the Original, he multiplied turning away.* He winked at the Idolatry of the *Calves* at *Dan* and *Bethel* two hundred and fifty years. So long divine Patience delay'd Vengeance on the Kingdom of *Israel*, and was very unwilling to give it up to that perpetual Captivity and Desolation under the King of *Assyria*; with what Anxiety and Concern does he speak of it? *Hos. 11. 8. 9.* *shall I give thee up, Ephraim? How shall I deliver thee Israel? How shall I make thee as Admah? How shall I set thee as Zeboim? mine Heart is turned within me.*

The Divine Majesty condescended to five or six Offers of Mercy and Forbearance before he destroy'd *Sodom* and *Gomorrhah*, at the Intercession of *Abraham*: He gave four hundred years to the *Amorites*; at the Request of *Moses* he was prevail'd with to spare a rebellious People, *when his Wrath was hot against them.* *Gen. 18. 2.* *Exod. 32. 10.*

He granted forty Days of Repentance to *Niniveh*, and was long provok'd with the *Babylonians*, *Persians*, *Egyptians*, *Grecians*, *Romans*, and other sinful Nations, before he poured

poured the Viols of his Wrath upon them. Nay, every one of us to this Day has repeated Experience of divine *Patience, Longanimity* and *Forbearance*, and may say with the *Psalmist*, But thou, O Lord, * art a God, full of *Compassion and Gracious, Long-suffering, and plenteous in Mercy and Truth*. He compares it to the *Pity* of a good tender hearted Father towards his Children, which it exceeds as far as the Heaven is above the Earth, For he is, Ps. 103. 11. says the Prophet, *gracious, merciful, slow to Anger, and of great Kindness, and repenteth him of the Evil*. Joel. 2. 13. And our Blessed Lord has illustrated the same to us by the Parables of the prodigal Son, the lost Sheep, and especially that of the Fig-tree, from which the Master of the Vineyard had expected Fruit for a long time, but found none: He waited from year to year, and at the End of three years he threatned to have cut it down, seeing it did nothing else but cumber the Ground: But at the Vine-dressers Request, he spared it a little longer, thinking that after digging about it, and dunging it; and another years Forbearance, it would certainly bear Fruit. Luke 13. 6. But how wonderful are the Tears of the Holy Jesus, which he shed over that unhappy City of *Jerusalem* before it's miserable and final Desolation? *How often would I have gathered thy Children together, (said he) even as a Hen* Mat. 23. 37.

* Ps. 86. 15. Pingitur hic Deus suis veris Coloribus; commiseratione arcer, opus fert pereuntibus. Pol. Synops. Crit. in loc.

gathereth her Chickens under her Wings, and he would not. His great Compassion is represented to us, by the Similitude of a *Hen*; for as she does tenderly cherish, carefully hide, and cover her young from the Eye of the Destroyer, even so would the tender hearted **JESUS** have shelter'd the Jews from the *Roman Eagle*, and all other Birds of Prey. O! what Mercy and Patience is this? O! what Care and Pains does our merciful Father take to make poor Mortals happy?

From these and many other Demonstrations of God's Longanimity, Patience and Mercy, we may see how apposite and agreeable to the divine Nature that Description is, which we have. *The Lord God, Merciful and Gracious, Long-suffering and abounding in Goodness and Truth, keeping Mercy for thousands*; for with much Patience he waits on the Sinner, and with infinite Clemency receives and pardons him, when he repenteth; as the Prophet saith, *Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth Iniquity, and passeth by the Transgression of the Remnant of his Heritage? He retaineth not his Anger for ever, because he delighteth in Mercy.*

True, God has shot his Arrows, and destroyed some notorious Sinners in the very Act; *Lot's Wife, Onan, Nadab and Abihu, Korah, Dathan and Abiram, Zimri and Cozbi*, are Instances of his Severity: *Uzza* was slain as he touch'd the Ark; *Jeroboam's* Hand withered that moment, when he put it forth against the Prophet: *Ananias and Sapphira* fell down dead as they had lied unto God. These Ob-

jects

jects of God's Displeasure (you will say) had no time to repent, they were cut off immediately; the *Holy Spirit* did not *strive with them*, but took them away in his Indignation. However, as God doth magnify his *Mercy* in sparing and pardoning many Sinners, so he renders his Justice glorious in punishing the Vessels of Wrath: By the former, we learn to love his Goodness, and adore the *Riches* of his *Mercy* and *Forbearance*; by the latter, we are taught to fear his *Justice*, and to turn to him in time: But what are these few Examples of his Severity, to stand in Competition with those infinite Proofs of the divine Bounty, and Indulgence to his Creatures? seeing every one of us must acknowledge, that *in him we live, and move, and have our Being*?

Notwithstanding, our Merciful Father delights to shew Pity upon his depending Creatures; he takes much Pleasure in doing them good, and is very willing to communicate out of his immense Ocean of Blessedness to every thing that is, but more especially to Mankind: He strives to reform and save them by his *Wonders*, *Afflictions*, *Judgments*, *Threatnings*, *Mercies* and *Commands*; by his *Ministers*, his *Word*, and by his *holy Spirit*, which is the principal Author and Dispenser of all these means of Salvation. But when they become ineffectual, because Men will not be Reform'd, and would rather die in their Sins, than forsake them and live for ever: In this case, God will not strive with them, but comes to a final Resolution and
Deter-

Determination with himself to delay just Punishment no longer. *And the Lord said, my Spirit shall not always strive with Men.* The Great God doth not want our Apology, but certainly the Judge of the whole Earth will do right; for when the God of Patience is wearied out with refractory Sinners, what is more just and reasonable than he should utterly destroy them from the Earth by sudden Death, that so they may no longer grieve his Spirit, abuse his Clemency, despite his Goodness, nor harden others in the same Sins; and that Men may know, that verily *there is a God which judgeth in the Earth.*

1 Pet. 3. 20. So far the *Long-suffering of God waited in the Days of Noah, while the Ark was a preparing* (as St. Peter testifies) He endured their Provocations, bore with the Offences, and waited for the Repentance of those that were hardened in Sin and Disobedience, no less than one Hundred and twenty Years: And that this is the common Course of his Providence towards Mankind, appears from innumerable instances in all Generations; whereby the infinite *Patience, Mercy and Goodness of Almighty God* doth sufficiently appear.

But we must not think that God is altogether Merciful, or that he will suffer, wait and bear with impious Mortals for ever: No, he is also just, and will certainly exercise the Rigour of his Justice upon all Abusers of his Kindness and Compassion: There is a Time, when God will be gracious no more, when he will delay deserved Punishment no longer;

ger; and this brings me to the Consideration of the *Date* and *Term* of his *Patience* and *Forbearance*, which is the SECOND General Head proposed, that God will not always strive with Sinners, but will at last pour out his Indignation and Wrath upon all Abusers of his Mercy and Forbearance, and the longer that is delay'd, the more it is abus'd, so much the more severe will this be when it cometh upon them. Here I shall enquire how it may be known, when the *Date* and *Term* of God's Mercy is past, and when is his vindictive Justice like to take Place upon a wicked People? But how may we know when that is at a Period, and this is at hand?

In Answer to which, it may be observ'd, that tho' God's Patience and Mercy be infinite like himself; being Perfections of the Glorious Deity: Yet in his Dispensations with the Children of Men it is otherwise; for he waits long on their Returning; he bears with pertinacious Sinners until they have abused his *Mercy*, and worn out his Longanimity by continued Provocations. In a word, God waits upon such Men until their *Cup be full*, and the Numbers of their *Iniquities be completed*. When the *Day of Grace* is past; and that *Season* is over, he will wait no longer; by remitting, mitigating, or deferring Punishment, by laying Life and Death, Good and Evil before them; or by affording them any longer the means of Grace and Salvation, with Promises of eternal Glory, and Threatnings of everlasting Torments to enforce them to Amendment.

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That God alloweth to every Nation, People, and individual Person, such a determined *Season and Time*, before he inflicts these dreadful Judgments, which their Iniquities deserve, appears from the *Nature* of the *divine Majesty*, who is full of Mercy and Compassion, more prone to *Pity* than to *Severity*, and just the Reverse of Mankind; they are soon provoked, but hard to be reconciled; and will never forgive nor forget an Affront; but he is *slow to Wrath*, *unwilling to punish*; but *rich in Mercy*, *swift to show Pity*, and ready to forgive all Injuries; and to bear patiently with the worst of Men till they repent. 'Tis evident also from several Instances in holy Scri-

Gen. 4. 1.
19.

Gen. 15. 16. *Old World*, four hundred more to the *Seven Nations of Palestine*, But in the fourth Generation they shall come hither again, for the Iniquity of the *Amorites* is not yet full: At the Expiration of them, the *Canaanites* were utterly extirpated by *Joshua*, *Caleb* being the fourth that took Possession of the *promised Land*.

Such a Date he prefix'd to the *Chaldeans*, *Moabites*, *Edomites*, *Tyrians*, and other Nations: Such a Permission he gave to *Antiochus Epiphanes*, that he might be a severe Scourge to the *Jews*, when their Sins were come to

Dan. 8. 23. the Height. * *When the Transgressions are*

* Cum Judæorum scelera ad summum venerint, ita ut deus iram suam tenere quodammodo non possit, permittit Antiochum in illos crudelissime sævire. Pol. Synop. Cris. in hoc loc.

come to the full, a King of fierce Countenance shall stand up, his Power shall be mighty, and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper and destroy the mighty and holy People. The Lord waited on Belshazzar that impious Prince, until he had filled up the Measure of his Iniquities by prophaning the Gold and Silver Vessels of the Temple at his prophane Feast; as it were in Contempt and Triumph over the true God: Then God number'd his Days, and cut him off and his hundred Princes in that instant, in the seventeenth year of his Reign. Lastly, our Saviour reproving the Hypocrisy of the Pharisees in his Days, said unto them, *Fill ye up the measure of your Fathers*, † or as some Copies * have it; *and ye have filled up*; which Measure of their Iniquities being filled up, the severe Wrath of God fell upon that wicked Generation forty years afterwards, and utterly destroy'd them.

Dan. 5. 22.

Mat. 23. 32.

Now, it may be said, that Men have filled up the measure of their Sins, and their Cup is full in three Respects.

1st, When they are universally Wicked, and all Flesh have corrupted their Ways: This was the Case of the Old World, Sodom and Jerusalem; for when Noah was taken from among them, and shut up safely in the Ark; the Deluge swept all the rest away: As soon

† Implete mensuram peccatorum, quibus nimirum terminum statuit, & modum, quod cum pervenerint, Deus vindictam infligit. *Pol. Synop. Critic. in loc.*

* Dr. Hammond in loc.

Gen. 19.
22.

as righteous *Lot* had escaped, Fire and Brimstone burnt up all the impious Inhabitants of the five Cities : When *Hezekias* and *Josias*, those pious Princes were gone, and when the elect *Jews* got safe out of *Jerusalem* ; *Nebuchadnezzar* and *Vespasian* laid it in heaps. For pious Men are a singular Blessing to a City, the Pillars of a Kingdom, and the Prop of the World : For their sakes God spares many thousand Sinners, and blesteth the Place where they dwell : He will not suffer his Judgment to fall in their Days ; therefore he takes them from the Evil to come, shuts them up in a silent Grave, and takes them to rest with himself ; but afterwards poureth his Judgments upon the ungodly Remnant. You see now, what would be the best Safeguard to this City and Nation, what would prove the most effectual means to keep off those dreadful Plagues and Afflictions, which have discopled others : The Tears and Prayers of God's People have very often averted divine Wrath ; those were always the best Defence in time of Danger ; and have procur'd great Deliverances. But alas ! true Piety is mock'd and despis'd, Charity waxeth cold, Wickedness abounds, Religion is neglected, and the sincere Professors of it are very few ; would to God there were many more of them among us. 'Tis to be fear'd, there are but few such Pillars now as *Lot*, *Moses*, *David*, and *Daniel* were in their Days ; and if a Scrutiny was made of this City, as *Jeremiah* did of *Jerusalem*, the Estimate would be much the same. That holy Propbet could not find
a Man

a Man that executed Judgment, and sought the Truth in all Jerusalem; the poor knew not the way of the Lord, and the Great Men knew it indeed, but were worse than those: Is it not just so with us? Whereupon the Lord threatned their Doom. A Lion out of the *Ibid. v. 6.*
Forest shall slay them, a Wolf of the Evening shall spoil them, a Leopard shall watch over their Cities: Every one that goeth out thence shall be torn in pieces, because their Transgressions are many, and their Back-slidings are increased. The Lord complained in the Days of Ezekiel, that he could not find one faithful Soul among his People, that might stop his Fury, and avert his Vengeance. I sought *Ezek. 22.*
for a Man among them, that should make up *30, 31.*
the Hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the Land, that I should not destroy it, but I found none. Therefore (said he) have I poured out mine Indignation upon them, I have consumed them with the fire of my Wrath; their own way have I recompensed upon their own head, saith the Lord. But our Iniquities being much of a Parallel with those of that People, we may justly fear their Punishments; which may God of his infinite Mercy avert.

2dly, Wicked Men have fill'd up the measure of their Iniquities, and their Cup is full; when they are become obstinate therein, and refuse to be reprov'd for their Crimes; for so the wise Man has observed, He that hateth *Prov. 15.*
Reproof shall die. The Men of Sodom could *10.*
not bear the Counsel of righteous Lot, and the Sons of Eli hearkned not unto the Voice
of

- 1 Sam. 2. of their Father, *because the Lord would slay them.* Amaziah would not suffer the Prophet to rebuke him for his Idolatry; therefore he
- 2 Chr. 23. 16. said unto the King, *I know that God hath determined to destroy thee, because thou hast done this, and hast not hearkened unto my Counsel.*
- Jer. 36. 23. Jeboiakim would not hearken unto the words of Jeremiah, which were read to Him and his Princes; nay, he cut and burnt the Roll of Prophecies in the Fire till it was consumed. But behold! in a few years he was taken Captive and slain; and his dead Body was cast out into the High-way without one of the Gates of Jerusalem; where it rotted in much Contempt and Scorn, according to the Prediction of that Prophet. In the Days of Isaiah,
- Jer. 22. 18. the Jews were such, for he said of them, *I know that thou art obstinate, and thy Neck is an iron Sinew, and thy Brow Brass.*
- Is. 48. 4. Jeremiah testified the same of them, *O Lord, thou hast corrected them, but they have refused to receive Correction, they have made their Faces harder than a Rock, they have refused to return.* They told him to his Face, that they would not return from their Idolatry: *As for the word of the Lord, that thou hast spoken to us in the Name of the Lord, we will not hearken unto thee; but we will certainly do whatsoever thing goeth forth out of our own Mouth, to burn Incense unto the Queen of Heaven.* But being come to that Height of Obstinacy in Wickedness, they perished by the Sword, Famine and Pestilence, as God had threatened by that Prophet. These were Examples of God's incensed Justice, and should be Warnings and
- Jer. 44. 3.

and Cautions to us; that we may not continue in that Obstinacy of Mind, which brought down such dreadful Calamities upon them: And may God enable us to observe them in due time.

3dly, People have fill'd up the *Measure* of their *Sins*, and their *Cup is full*, when they are become impudent and shameless in their Wickedness; for this proceeds from continued and repeated Habits of Vice, whereby Men are hardned in their Sins by degrees, till they come at last to that Height of it, as to glory in their Shame; to be puff'd up with that which should really make them blush. Such Sinners are Proof against Correction, given up to a reprobate Mind; and therefore there is no ground to wait any longer on their Amendment: In this case, God will speedily exercise the Rigour of his Justice upon them. How shameless were the Men of *Sodom*, of *Gen. 19. 5.* *Gibe*a, and the Sons of *Eli*: Their Punish- *Judg. 19.* ment was therefore very sudden and severe. *21.* The Prophet affirms, that the Jews were such *1 Sam. 2.* in his time: *The Shew of their Countenance* *22.* *doth witness against them; and they declare* *Is. 3. 9.* *their Sin as Sodom, they hide it not: Wo unto their Soul, for they have rewarded evil unto themselves.* And too many of this Sort of Sinners are to be found among us at this Day: Do not the prophane Swearers glory in their new Oaths and horrible Blasphemies; the Drunkards boast of their Strength; the unchaste Persons of their Gallantry, and triumph in their secret Amours?

Nay,

Nay, Alas! there be certain *Societies* of notorious Sinners among us, equally shameless (but indeed more heinous in the Sight of God) as those of *Sodom*: And *Clubs* also of such *Blasphemers* as former Ages never heard of; who are arriv'd to that Degree of *Arbeism*, as to ridicule and lampoon the God that made, redeem'd and sanctified them. These and other abounding Iniquities may deservedly bring upon this *City* and *Nation* speedy and unavoidable Destruction. O! how will they blush, when their *Works of Darkeness* shall be laid open before Men and Angels? How will they tremble before the God whom they have defied? What Shame and Confusion will seize them, when they shall stand Naked before the *Judge of the whole Earth*?

Again, sometimes God ceases to reprove and chastise Men for their Sins; and this is a *Second Sign* that the Date of his Patience is at an End, and that his Spirit will not strive with them any longer: For this is a Means of Salvation to some; but those that abuse it, he gives up to themselves: So they go on in their Transgressions adding Sin to Sin, without Check or Controul, until they are plung'd headlong in Misery and Woe. This is a Sign of God's Displeasure, a severe Punishment of itself, a token that more is at Hand; the worst State in this Life, and the first Fruits of Hell and Damnation in the next. King *Saul* was deserted of God and so Perished. God gave up the *Israelites*

Pf. 81. 11. unto their own Hearts Lusts, then they walk

ed in their own Counsels, and twenty and *Numb. 25*
four thousand of them perished in one Day. ^{9.}

The Kingdom of *Israel* fell into Idolatry to such a Degree, after God sent his Prophets to warn them daily, his Mercies and Judgments to convince them of their Danger, that he said at last, *I will not punish your Daughters when they commit Whoredom; nor your Spouses, when they commit Adultery: for themselves are separated, and they Sacrifice with Harlots — Ephraim is joyned to Idols let him alone: For the Iniquity of his Covetousness I was Wroth and smote him, I bid me and was Wroth, and he went on frowardly in the Way of his Heart.* Then he delivered them up to the King of *Affyria*, who led them Captives into a far Country, where they perished in everlasting Oblivion. Because the Scribes and Pharisees so maliciously and obstinately despised the Miracles and Doctrine of *Christ*, he said, *Let them alone: they be blind Leaders of the Blind; and if the Blind lead the Blind, both shall fall into the Ditch.* And so both Leaders and Followers among them have been left to themselves, and given up to judicial Blindness and Impenitence these seventeen hundred Years; these are the sad Effects of God's forsaking Men. In what a wretched Condition are they who grieve the Holy Spirit, and by their Iniquities provoke him to suspend the Influences and withdraw the Comforts of his Grace? *Yea Woe also to them when I de-* *Hos. 9. 17.*
part from them.

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But it is to be hoped, that our merciful and gracious God has not as yet forsaken this City and Nation, notwithstanding of their repeated Provocations, seeing he continues to send his Servants daily to warn and reprove them for the same. Happy were they if they wou'd but hearken unto their Voice, which is daily Preach'd in their Ears.

3dly, Some Men are so notoriously Impious, that they provoke Almighty God to *Swear* in his *Anger*, that he will spare them no longer: Then to be sure his Spirit will not always strive with such People; doubtless this is a Confirmation of their sudden and unavoidable Ruin and Destruction. For divine † *Threatnings* are for the most part Conditional; if Men will repent, the Calamities intended shall either be delay'd for a Time, or else utterly done away; thus *Abimelech*, *Ahab*, *Hezekias*, *Josias*, and the People of *Niniveh* escaped the Judgments threatned: But when Men continue hardened in their Sins without Remorse or Terror, under the Apprehensions of God's Wrath; his Spirit will wait no more upon them. That unbelieving, murmuring and stiff-necked Race, provoked the Lord so grievously, that *he swore in his Wrath, they should not enter into his Rest*: So they perished in the Wilderness, and never entred into the promised and good Land. The *Jews* were so resolute to go into *Egypt*, contrary to God's express Command, that they provoked him in

† Supplicii Commminatio est incitamentum Pœnitentiæ *Theodoret in Ion. c. 1.*

like manner to say, *I have sworn by my great Name, saith the Lord, that all the Men of Judah which are in Egypt, shall be consumed by the Sword, and by the Famine, until there shall be an End of them.* Thus he threatned the Edomites, *I have sworn by my self, saith the Lord, that Bozrah shall become a Desolation, a Reproach, a Waste, and a Curse; and all the Cities thereof shall be perpetual Desolations.* And in that manner, the Ruin of the Ammonites, Moabites, Syrians, Babylonians, Arabians, Elymæans, and other impenitent Nations was predicted by the Prophets, and afterwards so exactly accomplished, that their Memories have been buried in the Dust many Ages ago. So fearful a thing it is to fall into the hands of an angry God. And therefore now consider this, ye that forget God, lest he tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver you. Jer. 44.
26.
Jer. 49.
13.
Psalm 50.
2.

I have from this Text of sacred Scripture represented both the Riches of God's Mercy, Patience and Forbearance, in waiting upon a sinful People, and giving them sufficient Warning before unavoidable but just Judgments overtake and consume them; and also the Severity of his Indignation and Wrath in punishing them at last, because no means wou'd prevail with them to reform and be saved.

And from what has been said, we may learn, that the Ruin and Destruction of Sinners is wholly chargeable upon themselves, and owing to their own Willfulness and Obstinacy. Our most merciful Father assures us, that he has no Pleasure in the Death of him that dieth. Ezek. 18.

And confirms the Truth of it, by his waiting a long Time before he strikes ; by warning them of the approaching Danger ; by standing at the door, as ready to receive them upon their first Motion of Repentance ; by sending his Rods and Judgments to awaken, and his Mercies to draw them to himself. O ! how willingly would he have Men to be happy : But upon their Obstinacy, Hardness and Impenitency, they only treasure up to themselves Wrath against the Day of Wrath, O ! how deplorable and severe will the Destruction of such Offenders be ? How inexcusably must they perish, who perish by their own Willfulness and Obstinacy, after such kind and repeated Offers of Mercy and means of Salvation ? How will it sting their Conscience, and torment their Souls for ever and ever, that they have abused the Gospel, grieved the Spirit of God, and resisted so many Calls to Mercy ?

'Tis no wonder, that divine Wrath hath fallen sometimes so heavy upon wicked and rebellious People ; and that both Temporal, Spiritual, and Eternal Misery should be entailed upon them ; seeing they had so long and so heinously provoked the God of Patience ; nay oppos'd, controul'd and disturb'd the Holy Ghost in his Operations of Grace towards them ; and the longer God bears with such Sinners, so much the more severe his Judgments will be at last. Doubtless, for this Reason, the Destruction of the *Old World, Sodom, Tyre, Babylon, Carthage, and Jerusalem* was so dreadful : After many Provocations,

vocations, and when Divine Patience was so grievously abus'd; God's Wrath and Fury swept away the *Amorites, Israelites, Babylonians, Jews*, and other impious Nations from the Face of the Earth. God rais'd up *Salmaneser* and *Nebuchanezzar* the Rods of his Anger to scourge *Israel* and *Judah* for their manifold Provocations: And he has in the same manner permitted many cruel and merciless *Tyrants* in every Age since to chastize Mankind for their Iniquities. What Millions have *Cyrus, Alexander, Julius Caesar*, (that Plague and Poison of Mankind) *Vespasian, Tamerlane* and *Lewis XIV.* mow'd down to the Grave in their barbarous and uncivil Wars? God with-holds the Rains from Heaven, and takes away the Fruits of the Earth from a sinful People; he turneth Rivers into a Wilderness, and the Water-springs into dry Ground; a fruitful Land into Barrenness: For the Wickedness of them that dwell therein. For this Cause he has punished former Generations with Storms, Tempests, Inundations, Earthquakes, Hurricanes, Lightnings, Plagues, Pestilences, Famines, Massacres, and bloody Wars, all these Calamities befall Men for their Iniquities: And therefore we have no reason to find fault with divine Providence for these Instances of Severity that he has shew'd upon some; but may rather wonder, that they are not more severe and numerous; and bless God for his infinite Patience and Mercy in forbearing us, when his Anger rageth against our Neighbouring Nation. 'Tis true, the Plague has been very formidable and mortal there;

See the
Appendix.

there; having in eighteen Months cut off no less than three hundred and forty thousand Men, and almost dispeopled some of its most populous and flourishing Cities. But Lord! how many thousand innocent People have they murder'd in their late bloody and ambitious Wars for fifty years together? What Rivers of Blood have they shed in *Italy, Germany, Spain, Flanders and Britain*, in the last Century? For these and other Sins God makes their dead lie heaps upon heaps. But we must not think that we are better than they, because they suffer these dreadful Afflictions: No, let us be humbled and grieved for our own Sins, and with the Prophet acknowledge, that it is of the Lord's mercy that we are not consumed; because his Compassions fail not.

Lament. 3.
32.

But more dreadful Judgments than these remain for all impenitent Sinners, which will unavoidably fall upon them, when the Lord

2 Thess. 1.
7. *Jesus shall be revealed from Heaven with his mighty Angels in flaming Fire, taking Vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall be punished with everlasting Destruction from the Presence of the Lord, and from the Glory of his Power. O! how will they abide his coming? O! what Fear and Terror will then take hold of them? These Temporal Calamities are sent on the Earth, that Men may avoid those that are eternal; otherwise these are but a Prelude to those: And thrice happy are they to whom the first prevent the latter. Notwithstanding, not only the Atheist, but*

but even some that believe this, will hardly be prevail'd with to break off their Iniquities, and to flee from the Wrath to come. What a monstrous Piece of Folly is it to be wicked; seeing Men expose themselves thereby to all these dreadful Punishments.

Knowing therefore the Terror of the Lord, let us search and try our ways, and now turn again to him by true Repentance and Reformation of Life; that he may forgive us all that is past; and receive us graciously into his Favour and Protection, when the evil Day approacheth. We ought to consider, what Patience and Goodness our merciful Father has shewn to this Nation; that so we may endeavour to bring forth Fruit suitable to them. God was pleased to plant a pure and orthodox *Religion* among our Forefathers in the very first * Dawning of *Christianity*: He reform'd it from the Superstition of *Rome*, and rescued it out of the hands of that prevailing Spirit of Enthusiasm and Schism, which had eclips'd it for some time: He has bless'd us with Peace and Plenty of all good things for many years past, when other Nations have been almost wasted with the Sword, Pestilence and Famine: He has given this Kingdom and City several Signs from Heaven, as he did to *Jerusalem*: His Judgments are abroad in the Earth; the dreadful Plagues and Afflictions wherewith he chastizeth other Nations are Warnings to us. But where is the

* See Drillingfleet Orig. Brit. Collect. Eccl. Hist.

Fruit of the Gospel? *What do we more than others?* What better are we for all these Mercies? Are not other Churches more unanimous in the Faith, more stedfast in their Principles and conscientious than we in their Practice? Instead of bringing forth good Fruit, we yeild nothing else but the four *Grapes* of *Gomorrab*, of *Gall* and *Wormwood*. Nay, alas! our Forefathers died for those sacred Truths, which several among us at this Day do ridicule and deny: And instead of the *Love* and *Fear* of God, and that sacred *Reverence* that is due to his holy Name, his *Word*, *Ordinance* and *Servants*; how doth *Atheism*, *Perjury*, *Blasphemy*, *Sabbath-breaking* and *Impiety* prevail among us? Instead of *Meekness*, *Pity*, *Equity* and *Charity* toward one another, *Oppression*, *Malice*, *Fraud* and *Barbarity* are to be found. Alas, 'tis to be feared that God will visit for these things.

But seeing we don't know how long we shall enjoy these Mercies; nor how long the Spirit will strive with and wait on us; 'tis our Wisdom to humble our selves before God, to redouble our *Zeal*, our *Tears*, *Mortifications*, and *fervent Prayers*, and to bring forth *Fruits worthy of Repentance*. These are the means by which we may appease the Anger of God, which we deservedly draw down upon our selves by repeated Transgressions. God forbid that we should grieve the holy Spirit, by adding Sin to Sin, and living secure in this Time of great Danger; or that we should abuse the Goodness, Mercy and Patience of God, which should lead us to Repentance:
For

For then his Judgments will fall more heavy upon us after such a long Date of Patience, then the same or even some worse Evils than those that have consum'd *France* and other sinful Nations before them, will undoubtedly come unto us.

Finally, But if we repent truly of our Sins, and turn to God in Newness of Life, while his Mercy and Patience lasteth; we shall both escape the Evils we are afraid of at present; we shall enjoy the Continuance of God's Compassion and Loving Kindness, which is better than Life: And at last we shall be received as God's faithful Servants into the Society of the Spirits of just Men made perfect, where we shall be blest with the full Enjoyment of God to all Eternity.



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A N
A P P E N D I X.

Wherein is contain'd an HISTORICAL ACCOUNT of all the Plagues, Pestilences and Famines, which have happen'd throughout the World, from the Beginning to this Time, with some pleasant and useful Remarks upon them: The whole being concluded with pious Meditations out of Holy Scripture, and a Prayer proper for such Occasions.



WHAT a Plague or Pestilential Distemper and Famine are, need not be curiously enquired into; since the pernicious and mortal Effects of them have been and are so sensibly felt by Mankind in all Ages of the World: And seeing that learned Poet *Lucretius* has given us an excellent Description of the Causes and Occasions of a Plague in these Lines,

Nunc

*Nunc ratio quæ sit * Morbis, aut unde (repente
Mortiferam possit) cladem conflare, &c.*

Now next I'll shew, what Causes *Plagues* create,
What drives a *Pestilence*, swoln big with Fate,
To wast and lay a *Nation* desolate.

I've prov'd, that numerous *vital* Parts do fill
The *Air*, so likewise numerous those that *kill*:
These *Poysons* (whether from the *threatning* Skies
Like *Clouds* they fall, or from the *Earth* arise,
When she's grown *putrid* by the *Rains*, or sweats
Such *noxious* Vapors prest by *scorching* heats,) }
Infect the *lower Air*, and hence proceed
All *raging Plagues*, these all *Diseases* breed.

A Traveller, for every place he sees, }
Or hazards, or endures a new Disease,
Because the *Air* or *Water* disagrees.
How different is the *Air* of th' *British* Isle
From that which plays upon the *wandering Nile*?
What different *Air* doth *Pontus* *Snows* embrace,
From that which fans the *Sun-burnt Indian* Face?

Besides, *Mens Shape*, or *Colour* disagrees,
And every *Nation* hath its own Disease.
The *Lepers* only are to *Egypt* known,
Those *Wretches* drink of *Nilus* streams alone:
Athens, the *Muses* Sear, and chief Delight,
Offends the *Feet*, *Achaia* hurts the *Sight*:
And thus in every *Land* a new Disease;
New Pains on all the *other Members* seize,
And different *Air* is still the Cause of these.
Thus often when one *Countrey's Air* is blown
Into another, and forsakes it's own;

* *Lucret. lib. 6. lin. 1088.*

It spoils the *wholesome Air* where e're it goes,
 And makes all *like it self*, unfit for *Us*:
 Thence *Plagues* arise, and these *descend*, and pass
 Into our *Fountains*, tender *Corn* or *Grass*,
 Or other *Food*, or hang within the *Air*
 Held up by *fatal Wings*, and *threaten* there;
 So whilst we think to *live*, and draw our *Breath*,
 Those parts must *enter in*, and *following* Death:
 Thus *Plagues* do often seize the *labouring Ox*,
 And *raging Rots* destroy our *tender Flocks*.
 And thus the Thing's the *same*, if *Winds* do bear
 From *other Countries* an *unusual Air*,
 And fit to raise a *Plague*, and *Feaver here*,
 Or if we *Travel* all, and suck it *there*.

And therefore I shall only give the *Chronological History*, of the vast Numbers of them that have afflicted sinful Nations, as a Punishment of their Sins.

God having swept away an impious Generation from off the Face of the Earth by an *universal Deluge*, in the Year of the World 1656. promised to *Noah*, that there should never be another of that kind; but the new Plantation soon became as impious as the former: Therefore divine Vengeance was resolv'd upon other Methods of punishing Sinners.

Anno Mundi. 2024.] In the Days of
 Gen. 12. 10. *Abraham*, there was such a grievous Famine in the Land of *Canaan* (tho' it was the best of all Lands; a Land flowing with Milk and Honey) that that great Prince was forc'd to go into *Egypt* for Sustenance; because that was a Campaign Country, well Watered by the River of *Nilus*; and consequently

quently a common Granary to *Palestine* and other Neighbouring Nations.

A. M. 2034.] God consumed the Cities of *Sodom* and *Gomorrhah*, *Admah*, *Zeboim*, and *Zoar*, with *Fire* and *Brimstone*. A dreadful Destruction indeed! and stands a warning to all Generations; but yet it had not such Influence upon Mortals as might be expected, for the more they increased the more they sinned; and therefore we find many Diseases and new Distempers arise among them, according as they found out new Ways of committing Sin and Iniquity. For in the Year of the World.

A. M. 2129.] In the Days of *Isaac*, a second Famine seiz'd the Land of *Canaan*, *Gen. 26. 1.* (doubtless these two were sent as Chastisements to the wicked Inhabitants, that they might Repent of their Sins, and Warnings of their approaching Destruction) which was so grievous that that great Patriarch was obliged to flee to *Abimelech* the King of *Gerar* for Support.

A. M. 2236.] In *Jacob's* Time a very grievous and universal Famine began in the Land of *Egypt*, and spread over all *Palestine*, *Canaan*, *Arabia*, *Syria*, and the Face of the whole Earth: so that the People were famished by Reason of the Famine. * *Justin* the

* *Prodigiorum sagacissimus erat Josephus, & somniorum primus Intelligentiam condidit; nihilque divini juris humanique ei incognitum videbatur: Adeo, ut etiam sterilitatem agrorum ante multos annos prævicerit; peraisitque omnis Ægyptus fame; nisi monitu ejus rex edicto servari per multos annos fruges jussisset.*
Justin. lib. 36. c. 2. 9. 10.

Gen. 41. 42. Heathen *Historian* gives an Account of it; but *Moses* relates all the Circumstances of it.

A. M. 2436.] The *Egyptians* having cruelly oppress'd the People of God, so provok'd the Almighty, that he sent 10 Plagues upon them, which in a few months destroy'd both Man and Beast, and the Fruits of the Ground in a fearful manner.

Num. 25. 9. *A. M.* 2455.] One *Plague* in an instant swept away twenty four thousand *Israelites* in the Wilderness for their *Idolatry*.

Ruth 1. 4. *A. M.* 2631.] Such a grievous Famine continued 10 years in *Canaan*, that *Elimelech* (tho' a wealthy Nobleman) was constrained to leave his own Estate, and sojourn in a strange Country. Doubtless, 'twas a Punishment upon the *Idolatry* and other heinous Sins of that licentious and wicked Age.

1 Sam. 6. 19. *A. M.* 2851.] A *Pestilence* consum'd fifty thousand and threescore and ten Men of *Bethshemish*, for prying rashly into the *Ark of the Lord*.

2 Sam. 21. 1. *A. M.* 2945.] A grievous Famine was inflicted upon *Israel* for three years, because *Saul* their King slew the *Gibeonites*. This is not the first time that Subjects have suffer'd for the Sins of their Prince.

2 Sam. 24. 15. *A. M.* 2960.] In the Reign of King *David*, a *Pestilence* destroy'd 70000 of his Subjects in six hours, and 'twas for his Pride and Curiosity in numbering the People.

1 Kings 17. *A. M.* 3040.] In the Reign of King *Abab* after a grievous Drowth wherein there was neither Dew nor Rain for three years, a great

a great Famine ensued in the Kingdom of *Israel* afterwards.

A. M. 3055.] There was such a grievous ^{2 Kings 6.} Famine in *Samaria*, being besieged by *Benhadad* King of *Syria*; that an Asses Head was sold for fourscore Pieces of Silver, and the fourth Part of a *Kab* of Doves Dung for five Pieces of Silver. — Nay, two Women did eat one of their own Children, and had also devour'd the other; had not God relieved them with the Provision and Spoil of their Enemies within 24 hours.

A. M. 3240.] In the Reign of King ^{2 Kings 19.} *Hzekias*, an Angel of God destroy'd 185000 of the Army of *Sennacherib* King of *Assyria* by a *Pestilence* in one Night.

A. M. 3259.] In the Reign of *Tarquinius Priscus* fifth King of *Rome*, a *Pestilence* cut off the greatest Part of the *Romans*, but especially the Women with Child, both lying dead together in the Streets: And

A. M. 3410.] It broke out again about 60 years after in the same manner, destroying their Virgins and Women with Child; when no Remedy could be found, they were answer'd, that it proceeded from the Displeasure of their Gods, because the sacred Rites had not been performed with that Decency and Purity which they required; seeing a *Vestal Virgin* had been deflour'd at *Urbium*, which had perform'd some of them.

A. M. 3575. U. C. 274.] About the time that *Nehemiah* repair'd the Walls of *Jerusalem*, before Christ 430, about the second year of the *Peloponnesian War*, that grievous *Pesti-*

Pestilence, call'd the *great Plague of Attica*, began first in *Ethiopia*; from thence it came into *Lybia* and *Egypt*: It over-run *Judea*, *Phœnicia*, *Syria* and the whole *Persian Empire*: From thence it passed into *Greece*, and grievously afflicted the *Athenian State* and all the *Roman Empire*. It broke out again at *Athens* with great Fury four years afterwards, and so much exhausted that City of its Inhabitants, that for better replenishing of it, a new Law was made to allow every Man to marry two Wives. This *Pestilence* spread over the greatest Part of the World, continuing in some Place or another for fifteen years together, and is the *first universal Plague* we read of in History.

* *Thucydides* the *Athenian Historian* has given a very full Account of this Disease, having had it himself, and freely visited a great many that were afflicted with it. *Hippocrates* that excellent Physician of *Cos*, wrote of it as a Physician; he was at *Athens* all the time this Distemper rag'd there; and cleansed *Thessaly* by burning the Woods, which purify'd the Air; and *Artaxerxes* King of *Persia* promis'd him very great Rewards to come into his Dominions, to cure those who are infected with it; but he refused them all. † *T. Lucretius*, who was three hundred years after them, has given us a *Poetical Description* of it in these Lines,

* *Thucyd. lib. 2. 'Hρρξας δὲ &c.*

† *T. Lucret. lib. 6. line 136. Dr. Pridcaux Connell. De l. page 313. Usser. Annal. page 114.*

*Hæc ratio quondam Morborum, & Mortifer æstus
Fimibus Cecropiis funestos reddidit agros, &c.*

† A Plague thus rais'd laid learned Athens wast,
Thro' every Street, thro' all the Town it past;
Blasting both Man and Beast with poy's'nous Wind,
Death fled before, and Ruine stalkt behind.
From Egypt's burning Sands the Fever came,
More hot than those that rais'd the deadly flame;
The Wind that bore the Fate went slowly on,
And as it went was heard to sigh and groan.
At last the raging Plague did Athens seize,
The Plague and Death attending the Disease:
Then Men did die by heaps, by heaps did fall,
And the whole City made one Funeral.

First, fierce unusual Heats did seize the Head,
The glowing Eyes with blood-shot-beams lookt red,
Like blazing Stars approaching Fate foreshow'd;
The Mouth and Faws were fill'd with clotted blood,
The Throat with Ulcers, the Tongue could speak no
more,
But overflow'd and drown'd in putrid gore,
Grew useless, rough, and scarce could make a Moan,
And scarce enjoy'd the wretched Power to groan.
Next thro' the Faws the Plague did reach the Breast,
And there the Heart, the Seat of Life, posselt;
Then Life began to fail, strange Stinks did come
From every putrid Breast, as from a Tomb;
A sad Prefage that Death prepar'd the Room:
The Body weak, the Mind did sadly wait,
And fear'd, but could not flie approaching Fate:
To these fierce Pains were joyn'd continual care,
And sad complainings, groans, and deep despair;

† The Plague of Athens by Mr. Creech.

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Tor²

Tormenting, vexing *Sobs*, and deadly *Sighs*,
Which rais'd *Convulsions*, broke the vital *Ties*
Of *Mind* and *Limbs*, and so the *Patient* dies.

Yet touch the *Limbs*, the warmth appear'd not great,
It seem'd but little more than *natural* heat;
The *Body* red with *Ulcers*, swoln with pains,
As when the * *Sacred Fire* spreads o're the *Veins*;
But all within was *Fire*, fierce *Flames* did burn,
No *Cloaths* could be endur'd, no *Garments* worn;
But all (as if the *Plague*, that fir'd their *blood*,
Destroy'd all *Virtue*, *Modesty*, and *Good*,)
Lay *Naked*, wishing still for *cooling Air*,
Or ran to *Springs*, and hop'd to find it there:
And some leapt into *Wells*, in vain; the *Heat*
Or still *increas'd*, or still remain'd as *great*.
In vain they drank, for when the *Water* came
To th' *burning* breast, it *bis'd* before the flame;
And thro' each *Mouth* did *Streams* of *Vapours* rise,
Like *Clouds*, and darkned all the *ambient Skies*;
The *Pains* *continual*, and the *Body* dead,
And *senseless* all, before the *Soul* was fled;
Physicians came, and saw, and shook their head:
No *Sleep*, the pain'd and wearied *Mens* delight;
The *fiery Eyes*, like *Stars*, wak'd all the night.

Besides, a thousand *Symptoms* more did wait,
And told sad *News* of coming *hasty* Fate:
Distracted Mind, and sad and furious *Eyes*,
Short Breath, or constant, deep, and hollow *Sighs*;
And buzzing *Ears*, and much and frothy *Sweat*
Spread o're the *Neck*; and *Spittle* thin with heat,
But salt and yellow, and the *Jaws* being *rough*,
Could hardly be thrown up with violent *Coughs*:
The *Nerves* contracted, *Strength* in *Hands* did fail,
And *Cold* crept from the *Feet* and spread o're all:

* *St. Anthony's Fire.*

And when Death came at last, it chang'd the *Nose*,
 And made it *sharp*, and prest the *Nostrils* close ;
 Hollow'd the *Temples*, forc't the *Eye balls* in,
 And *chill'd*, and *hard'ned* all, and *stretch'd* the *Skin*.

They lay not *long*, but soon did *Life* resign,
 The warning was but short, *Eight Days*, or *Nine*.
 If any liv'd, and scapt the *fatal* day,
 And if their *Loosness* purg'd the *Plague* away,
 Or *Ulcers* drain'd, yet they would soon decay ;
 Their *weakness* kill'd them ; or their *poison'd* Blood,
 And *strength*, with horrid Pains thro' *Nostrils* flow'd.
 But those that felt no *Flux*, the strong *Disease*
 Did oft descend, and wretched *Members* seize ;
 And there it rag'd with cruel pains and smart,
 Too weak to kill the *Whole*, it took a *Part* :
 Some lost their *Eyes*, and some prolong'd their *Breath*
 By loss of *Hand* ; so strong the fear of *Death*.
 The Minds of some did dark *Oblivion* blot,
 And they their *Actions*, and *Themselves* forgot.

And tho' the scatter'd *Bodies* naked lay,
 Yet *Beasts* refus'd, the *Birds* fled all away,
 And us'd their *Wings* to shun their easie *Prey*,
 They fled the *Stench*, whom *Tyrant Hunger* prest,
 And forc'd to taste, he prov'd a wretched *Guest*,
 The *Price* was *Life*, it was a *costly Feast*.
 Few *Birds* appear'd, no *Wing* could serve for *Flight* ;
 The *Beasts* scarce dar'd to trust themselves to *Night* ;
 The *Plague* walkt thro' the *Woods*, in every *Den*
 They lay and *sigh'd*, and *groan'd*, and dy'd like *Men*.
 The *faithful Dogs* did lie in every *Street*,
 And dy'd at their *expiring* Masters Feet.
 Disorder'd *Funerals* were hurried on,
 No *decent Mourners*, and no *friendly Groan* :
 Neglecting others *Fate* all wept their *Own*.

No common Remedy did Health impart
 To All, *Physick was grown a Private Art,*
 For that which gave to One fresh vigour, ease,
 And Health and Strength, and conquer'd the Disease,
 E'en the same Thing, with equal Art apply'd,
Another took, and by the Physick dy'd.

All the Infected lay in deep Despair,
 Expecting coming Death with constant Fear;
 Pale Ghosts did walk before their Eyes, and fright,
 No dawning Hopes brake thro' their dismal Night,
 No thoughts of Help. This was a grievous Ill,
 This sharpen'd the Plague's rage; these fears did kill.

Besides, the fierce Infection quickly spread,
 When one poor Wretch was fall'n, to others fled;
 One kill'd, the Murderer did cast his Eye
 Around, and if he saw a Witness by,
 Seiz'd him for Fear of a Discovery. }
 Those Wretches too, that greedy to live on,
 Or fled, or left infected Friends alone,
 Straight felt their Punishment, and quickly found
 No flight could save, no Place secure from Wound;
 A strong Infection all their walk attends,
 They fall as much neglected as their Friends;
 Like rotten Sheep they die in wretched state,
 And none to Pity, or to Mourn their Fate. (cries
 Those whom their Friends complaints, and piteous
 Did force to come, and see their Miseries,
 Receiv'd the fatal and infectious Breath,
 An innocent Murderer He that gave 'em Death.
 This kind of Death was best; so Men did choose
 (A wretched choice) this way their Life to lose!
 Some rais'd their Friends a Pile, that Office done,
 Return'd and griev'd, and then prepar'd their own:
 A treble Mischiefe this, and no Relief,
 Not one but suffer'd Death, Disease, or Grief.

The

The *Shepherd* midst his Flocks resign'd his Breath,
 Th' infected *Plowman* burnt, and starv'd to Death;
 By *Plague* and *Famine* both the Deed was done,
 The *Plowman* was too strong to yield to One.
 Here dying *Parents* on their *Children* cast,
 There *Children* on their *Parents* breath'd their last.
 Th' infected *Plowman* from the *Country* came,
 He came, and brought with him additional Flame.
 Men flock't from every part, all *Places* fill'd; (kill'd.
 Where th' *Croud* was great, by heaps the *Sickness*
 Some in the *Streets*, some near the *Fountains* lay,
 Which quencht their *Flame*, but wast their *Souls* away:
 And some in *publick*, half alive, half dead,
 With filthy *Coverings* o're their *Members* spread,
 Did lie and Rot; the *Skin*, the poor *Remains*
 Of all the *Flesh*, the starting *Bones* conrains }
 All cover'd o're with *Ulcers*, vext with *Pains*. }

Death now had fill'd the *Temples* of the *Gods*,
 The *Priests* themselves, no *Beast* the *Altar* loads:
 Now no *Religion*, now no *Gods* were fear'd,
 Greater than All the present *Plague* appear'd:
 All *Laws* of *Burial* lost, and all confus'd,
 No solemn *Rites*, no decent *Order* us'd;
 But as the *State* of *Things* would then permit,
 Men burnt their *Friends*, nor look't on just, and fit;
 And *Want*, and *Poverty* did oft ingage
 A thousand *Acts* of *Violence*, and *Rage*.
 Some (O imperious *Want*!) a *Carcass* spoil,
 And burn their *Friend* upon another's *Pile*;
 And then would strive and *Fight*, and still defend;
 And often rather *Die*, than leave their *Friend*;
 The *Other* lost his *Pile* by pious *Theft*,
 A poor *Possession*, All that *Fate* had left.

And

And *Virgil*, who succeeded *Lucretius*, gives an exact Account of this Pestilence, and how it had laid waste all *Italy*, *Venice*, *Greece*, and *Gaul*, destroying both Man and Beast there; thus he sings,

*Tum sciat, aerias * Alpes, & Norica si quis
Castella in Tumulis, & Japidis arva Timari*

A Dire Example of this Truth appears,
When after such a length of Rolling Years
We see the naked Alps, and thin Remains
Of scatter'd Cotts, and yet unpeopled Plains,
Once fill'd with grazing Flocks, Shepherds happy
Reigns.

Here from the vicious Air and sickly Skies:
A Plague did on the dumb Creation rise,
During the Autumnal Heats th' Infection grew,
Tame Cattle and the Beasts of Nature flew;
Pois'ning the standing Lakes and Pools impure,
Nor was the foodful Grass in Fields secure.
Strange Death! For when the thirsty Fire had drunk
Their vital Blood, and the dry Nerves were Shrunk,
When the contracted Limbs were cramp'd, even then
A watrish Humour swell'd, and Ooz'd again;
Converting into Bane the kindly Juice
Ordain'd by Nature for a better use.
The Victim Ox that was for Altars prest,
Trim'd with white Ribbons, and with Garlands drest
Sunk of himself without the Gods Command,
Preventing the slow Sacrificers Hand:
Or by the holy Butcher if he fell
Th' infected Entrails cou'd no Fates foretell.

* *Virgil Georgic. lib. 3. lin. 479. vid. Serv. in Virgil.*

The Thri'v'n Calves in Meads their Food forsake,
 And render their sweet Souls before the plenteous Reck,
 The sawning Dog runs mad, the wheafing Swine
 With Coughs is choak'd and labours from the Chine,
 The Victor Horse forgetful of his Food
 The Palm renounces, and abhors the Flood. *Dryden, &c.*

A. M. 3523. *U. C.* 292.] A violent Plague *vid. T. Liv.* began in *Rome* in *September*, and continued a whole year; first the Cattle, then the People were infected; whereby the fourth Part of the *Senators*, two *Consuls*, *L. Ebutius*, and *P. Servilius Priscus*, almost all the *Tribunes*, with many other Persons of Note, and such a vast Number of inferior People as could not be counted.

A. M. 3601. *U. C.* 300.] The most severe Plague that ever had been known, rag'd then in *Rome*; it took away the *Consul Quintilius* and his Deputy *Sp. Furius*, three *Tribunes*, an *Augure*, the Priest of *Quirinus*, most Part of the *Senators* and the half of the *Romans*, their Confederates the *Volscei*, *Sabines*, and others; and almost all the Cattle.

A. M. 3619. *U. C.* 318.] The Plague began in *Rome* with divers dreadful Prodigies, and rag'd so for two years, that the People were so wasted, that they could not make any defence against their Enemies; whereupon the *Fidenites* and *Veientes* enter'd their Territories; and came so far as the Gate call'd *Collina*.

A. M. 3644. *U. C.* 343.] A Famine and Pestilence in *Rome*, swept away a great many People of all Sexes and Conditions.

A. M.

A. M. 3657. U. C. 356.] The Plague rag'd so violently in *Rome* and through *Italy*, that having no other Remedy, they consulted the Books of the *Sibylls*, whereby they were advis'd to celebrate that great Ceremony called *Lectisternium* the first time; 'twas afterwards perform'd in time of some publick Calamity only, and in this manner; they took the Statues of their Gods down from their Pedestals, they laid them upon stately Beds made for that purpose in their Temples with Pillows under their Heads, and magnificently entertain'd them on purpose to pacify them. Lastly, they open'd the Gates of the City to all Foreigners, they forgot and forgave all Quarrels and Animosities, granted Liberty to all Prisoners, and entertain'd Strangers splendidly for nothing.

A. M. 3672. U. C. 371.] A great Plague and Famine cut off vast multitudes in the City of *Rome* and Country.

A. M. 3691. U. C. 390.] Another Plague broke out in *Rome* by the overflowing of the *Tyber*; and to put a stop to it, they celebrated the former solemn Feast.

A. M. 3721. U. C. 320.] A Pestilence rag'd in *Rome*; and two years after there was a great Mortality among the Men only. The Cause of it was for a long time unknown, till a Slave declar'd to the Senate, that most part of the *Roman Matrons* had plotted to destroy all the Men by a poison'd drink; whereupon twenty of them were

* Tit. Liv. Decad. 1. lib. 5. Monf. Danet. Dict. Ant.

apprehended, and being order'd to drink it, they dy'd therewith. Afterwards one hundred and seventy more of them were apprehended and put to Death; thus they put a Stop to that Mortality.

A. M. 3759. U. C. 458.] The Romans being afflicted with a Plague, sent Ambassadors to the Inhabitants of Epidaurus a City in Dalmatia, now call'd *Rugusa*; with rich Presents for *Esculapim* the God of Physick who had been a Native there; in order (if possible) to bring him to Rome. The Epidaurians being unwilling to part with their God, a huge Serpent swam aboard, and wound itself round in the Stern of one of their Gallies; which they took to be *Esculapim*, and brought it to Rome with great Solemnity: He landed at an Island in the Tyber, and there they built a Temple to his Honour. But in the mean time the Plague abated. O! the Blindness and Superstition of those times, yet God of his infinite Mercy winked at them, he overlookt their brutish and absurd Notions of the Deity and destroy'd them not: But thanks be to God, who hath delivered us from the Power of Darkness, and hath translated us into the Kingdom of his dear Son.

A. M. 3764. In Sixty A Plague Consumed the Carthaginian Army.

A. M. 3790. U. C.] A Plague so wasted Rome, that they wanted Necessaries for burying the Dead; and could not raise eight Legions to defend the Empire.

A. M. 3828. *U. C.* 527.] * A Plague broke out in *Rome*, which beginning with great Rains oblig'd the *Consuls* to retire; and rag'd so, that they could not carry on the War in *Liguria* and *Lombardy*.

A. M. 3848. *U. C.* 547.] Such A Pestilence rag'd in *Rome*, that there scarcely remain'd living sufficient to bury the Dead.

A. M. 3859. *U. C.* 608.] Upon the Ruin of the famous City of *Carthage*, a Pestilence spread over all *Africa* by reason of vast Swarms of Locusts, which having eat up all the Fruits of the Earth, the Stench of them began that great *African* Plague, which destroyd both Men and Beast: In *Numidia* alone 800,000 dyed; about *Urica* 30000 Soldiers that were left to guard those Parts, and more than 1500 dead Corpses were carried thro' one Gate of that City in a Day: And about *Carthage* above 200,000 People dyed in a few days.

A. M. 3873. *U. C.* 572.] This year the Third *Italian* Plague began, which was so Mortal, that the *Romans* could not raise 8000 Foot and 300 Horse against the War in *Sardinia*.

A. M. 3889. *U. C.* 588.] Another Plague lay very hard upon *Rome*.

A. M. 3978.] † 25 Years before Christ's Incarnation, in the 13th year of the Reign

* *Salian. Annal. Eccl. V. T. Tom. 5. T. Liv. l. 40. Cluver. Hist. Mundi.*

† *Dr. Prideaux Connect. Part. II. p. 468. Usser. Annal. p. 580. Sic affecto Herode supervenit pestis, quæ Plebs & Alicorum majorem partem Abstulit.*

of *Herod*, a Famine and Pestilence sweep away the greatest Part of his Courtiers and Commonalty. But for a Remedy of this Calamity, *Herod* melted down all the Plate of his Palace (his Treasure being exhausted) even the most Valuable of it; and making Money of it, sent it into *Egypt* to buy Corn, to relieve the Necessities of his People and Neighbours in *Syria*, who were under the same Distress; he provided also *Cloaths* to them, because the Flocks of *Judæa* were consum'd by the great Drought. By these Acts of Charity and Generosity, he not only reconciled unto him the Affection of his People, but also made his Name famous among the Neighbouring Nations, gaining among them the Reputation of a wise, gracious and generous Prince; which shews the extraordinary Force and Power of *Charity*; 'twill procure the Love of Enemies; 'tis amiable and beautiful in it self, it renders a Man such to others, and covers a Multitude of Sins.

A. M. 4032. and of our Lord Jesus Christ 29.] † A Pestilence spread over all *Italy*, with such a Mortality, that few or none remained to till the Ground. Neither must we expect to be altogether free from these common Calamities under the Lord Jesus, Seeing he has told us, *there shall be Famines and Pestilences in divers Places.* *Mat. 24. 7.*

A. D. 43.] * Second year of *Claudius* the Roman Emperor, *England* was visited with

† *Saliani Annal. Eccl. Tem. 6. ad A. M. 4032.*

* *Brittish Chronologer.*

such a dreadful Pestilence, that the Quick were scarce sufficient to bury the Dead.

A. D. 47.] * A great Famine rag'd over all *Judea*, and the whole World in the fifth and sixth years of *Claudius*, which *Agabus* by Revelation from the Spirit of God had foretold some time before. 'Twas so great, that the *Christians* in all Places according to their Ability thought it their Duty to relieve the *Jews*: *Helen* Queen of the *Adiabeni* bought a great deal of Corn out of *Egypt* at a very dear Price; and *St. Paul* made a Collection among the *Corinthians*, *Galatians*, and other Gentiles, for relief of the poor *Christians* of *Judea*, which teaches us to follow their Examples in the time of such grievous Calamities.

A. D. 54.] A grievous Famine spread over *Britain*, so that the Inhabitants were forc'd to eat *Dogs*, *Cats*, *Rats*, and other Vermine; which was follow'd

A. D. 57.] With a great Plague in *Britain*.

A. D. 65.] When *Nero* was Emperor, a great Pestilence in *Rome* swept away 30000 People in the Harvest time.

A. D. 70.] When *Vespasian* and *Titus* carried on the Wars against the *Jews*, besides the infinite Numbers that fell by their Sword: There was also such a dreadful Fa-

* *Ad. 11. 28. Euseb. Eccl. Hist. l. 7. c. 8. & 12. Dr. Hammond in loc.*

† *Pestilentia unius Autumni, qua triginta funerum millia in rationem Libitinæ venerunt. Suet. in Nero c. 39.*

mine in *Jerusalem*, that a noble Woman boy'd her own Child to eat it. After which, so great a Pestilence immediatly ensued, that from the first of *April* to the first of *July* following, 115,080 Carcases of the poorer Sort were carry'd out to be buryed at the publick Charge, and 600000 of the ordinary Rank were cast Dead out of the Gates of the City; and when they were not able to bury them, they gathered their Bodies together into the greatest Houses adjoining, and there shut them up. Thus some reckoned Twelve hundred and Forty thousand and upward of them, that were cut off by the Sword in the destruction of *Jerusalem* and other Cities of *Judaea*; besides innumerable Numbers of them that are omitted, and dy'd by *Plague*, *Pestilence*, *Famine*, *Massacres*, and other means. So never a Nation languish'd in such a deplorable manner, nor suffer'd such Miseries. For all these Curses and Calamities came upon them at that time that *Moses* and *Jesus Christ* had foretold them for their Wickedness.

Levit. 26.

14.

Deut. 28.5.

Mat. 24.1.

A. D. 88.] A Pestilence rag'd in the Northern Parts of *England*.

A. D. 92.] The same also infected *Scotland* so furiously, that 150,000 People dy'd.

A. D. 102.] A great *Plague* spread over all *Britain*; which was occasion'd by the extraordinary Mortality and Putrefaction of the Fish in most Rivers of both Nations.

A. D. 114.] † A Pestilence in *Wales* kill'd 45000 People.

† C. Tacit. Annal. lib. 16. c. 13.

A. D.

A. D. 134.] In the Reign of *Adrian*, a great Famine and Pestilence cut off many more of the *Jews* and some of the Heathens in the Empire; besides those vast Numbers of them that were cut off before by the Sword.

Mat. 24. A. D. 137.] Another rag'd in *Turk*, which almost dispeopl'd that City.

A. D. 146.] A Plague brake out in *Scotland*.

A. D. 151.] Another destroyed much People in *Wales*.

A. D. 160.] A great Famine and Pestilence cut off many thousands of People in *Scotland*.

A. D. 169.] A Plague did much Harm in *Wales*.

A. D. 170.] * When *M. Aurel.* and *L. Verus* were Emperors, a dreadful Pestilence broke out on this Occasion. *Verus* having continued four years in an Expedition in the East, and after much Bloodshed at the taking and plundering of *Babylon*; the Roman Soldiers pillaging the Temple of *Apollo*, in a place under Ground, found a little Golden Coffer, which upon their Opening of it, cast forth a horrible Infection, which spread itself thro' the army. At his Return he carry'd the Plague over all the Provinces thro' which he pass'd; and caused the Infection to spread through *Italy*, and almost all the Empire:

* *Baton. Annal. Tom. 1. Echard R. Hist. Vol. 2. p. 319. Cluver. Hist. Mundi.*

It was so mortal, that for want of Men, they took Carts and Wains to carry out the Dead. Then they rectified and strictly observed the Severe Laws of *Antoninus*, about burying the Dead, *viz.* that no Violence should be offer'd to Sepulchres, and that the Poor should be buried at the charge of the Publick. This Plague was follow'd with a Famine, Earthquake, Inundations Caterpillars, and bloody Wars, in *Italy*, and other Provinces: To put a Stop to these dreadful Calamities, the vigilant and prudent Emperor used all Methods human and divine with infinite Zeal and Superstition. He sent for Priests from all Parts to dispatch the innumerable Company of Sacrifices vowed and offered upon this Occasion, celebrated all the sacred foreign Rites that were ever known in *Rome*, purged the City by all manner of ways; celebrated the Solemnities called *Lectisterna* seven days together. If this Heathen was at so much pains to implore the Help of his vain Idols; how much more should we arise and call upon the living and true God, who will bear us in the day of trouble.

A. D. 180.] * In the Reign of *Commodus*, a great Plague broke out upon the Martyrdom of *St. Polycarp* and other *Christians*; which spread over *Italy*, *Greece*, and almost all the *Roman Empire*: In *Rome* alone it made 2000 Funerals every day for a considerable time. *Dio* tells us, that he never knew such a dreadful

* *Dio. in Commodi Comput. Magdeburgens.*

Pestilence before, and that many wicked Men were hired to throw little Needles dip'd in Poison upon the People, whereby many thousands were cut off.

A. D. 211.] After a Comet had appear'd for a Month over *London*, a great Plague rag'd in it for a long time.

A. D. 222.] A great Pestilence in *Scotland* destroy'd above 100,000 People.

A. D. 228.] By a grievous Famine there, those that escap'd were starv'd to Death.

A. D. 238.] Such a dreadful Famine prevail'd again in *Scotland*, that the People kill'd their own Children for Food.

A. D. 256.] * When *Gallus* and *Volusian* his Son were Emperors, a dreadful Pestilence began in *Ethiopia*, which infected all Kingdoms in the World in such an unheard of manner, that no House, no City, no Province escap'd the Smart of its Fury; therefore 'tis impossible to calculate the Number of the dead: However it put a Stop to all Commerce, Conversation and Use of Letters among Men. *Baronius* says, it continued from *A. 255* to the year *265*, i. e. 10 years, but others affirm 15 years. Nay, the Reign of these Emperors was only remarkable for the great and continu'd Plagues without Intermission; and they were very much beloved on this Account; because they took care of

* *Baron. Annal. Tom. 1. Sallian. Annal. Eccl. Euseb. Hist. Eccl. l. 7. c. 22. Echard. Rom. Hist. Vol. 2. p. 480. Cluver. Hist. Mundi in Gallo. Speed's Hist. of Brit. p. 2.*

every ones, even the poorest Man's Funeral.

A. D. 259.] A great Famine and Pestilence rag'd in *Wales*.

A. D. 263.] In the ninth of *Gallienus* Emperor, that dreadful Pestilence broke out again with the usual Fury; so that in *Rome* and in several Cities of *Achaia* no less than 5000 dy'd of the same Disease in one Day: And under *Flavius Claudius* the Emperor, after he defeated the Armies of the *Goths*, 100,000 dy'd of it at *Sirmium* in *Pannonia*, and many thousands besides.

A. D. 266.] A Plague devoured so many Souls in *Scotland*, that the living were scarce sufficient to bury the dead.

A. D. 272.] Such a Famine and Pestilence prevail'd in *Britain*, that the People were forc'd to make Bread of the Barks of Trees, Turnips, &c.

A. D. 288.] Another Plague rag'd in *Britain*, *Wales* and *Scotland* with much Fury, and cut off many thousands.

A. D. 306.] A grievous Famine and Pestilence rag'd in *Scotland*, and continu'd four years together.

A. D. 311.] * When *Maximinus* Emperor began the sixth general *Persecution*, a dreadful Famine began in his Army at the Siege of *Aquileia*, which was so great, that one Measure of Wheat cost 2400 *Attic Drachmas*, i. e. 85 *l.* 18 *s.* 9 *d.* *English Money*; besides, many thousands drop'd

* Baron. Annal. Tom. 3. p. 6. Comput. Magdeb. Cent. 3. c. 14.

down dead in the Streets, and in the Fields: Some eat the Grass and poysonous Herbs, whereby they dy'd in very great Misery: The dead lying unburied for many'days, and being devour'd by the Dogs, &c. So great a Pestilence ensued, that 5000 dy'd in a day. But the Christians by their singular Acts of Charity sav'd many from starving; which turn'd the Hearts of the *Heathens* to the true Faith, and to love those which they had persecuted before. And this put a stop to that cruel Persecution, so God brings Good out of Evil.

A. D. 333.] A great Plague broke out in Scotland: And in

A. D. 338.] Above 40000 were starv'd to Death in Britain and Wales.

A. D. 375.] A Plague swept away 43000 People in Wales.

*A. D. 376.] * Under Valens the Emperor, a Famine and Pestilence rag'd violently in many Parts of the Roman Empire. It was occasion'd by the bloody Wars, Devastations and Massacres by the Goths, who then wasted all before them by Fire and Sword.*

A. D. 409.] A Pestilence rag'd in the North of England, and destroy'd almost all the Inhabitants of the City of York.

A. D. 410.] When Honorius and Theodosius were Emperors, a violent Pestilence seiz'd Rome: Alarich the Goth besieg'd the City, and the Romans not having Graves enough within, the dead lay unburied, and

* Baron. Annal. Tom. 4. p. 290. Tom. 5. p. 418.

infected the Living: But whom the Plague had left, he Murderd at the Sacking of Rome.

A. D. 438.) A violent Pestilence and Famine rag'd in *England*.

A. D. 440.) It spread into *Scotland*, and cut off most of the Inhabitants of that Kingdom.

A. D. 447.) * What the Sword and Famine had spar'd in *England* in the former years, a sore Pestilence swept away: So that the Living scarce suffic'd to bury the Dead.

A. D. 454.) A dreadful Plague spread over all the *Eastern Countries*.

A. D. 467.) When *Leo* was Emperor, a terrible Plague rag'd in *Rome*.

A. D. 470.) A great Famine and Plague broke out in *Scotland* by continual Rain for ten Months: In *Wales* by a great Snow; And in

A. D. 477) It began in *England* by vast Swarms of *Locusts*, which devour'd the Fruits of the Earth.

A. D. 480.) † Another Plague cut off many thousands in *Scotland*.

A. D. 448.) When *Zeno* was Emperor, after a long Drowth over all *Africa* a Famine and Pestilence destroy'd most of the *Africans*.

A. D. 502.) A great Pestilence and Mortality destroy'd both Man and Beast in *Scotland*.

A. D. 515.) A great Famine and Plague rag'd in *Britain*: And in

* Terrell's *Gen. Hist. of Engl. Vol. 1. Book 3. p. 117.*

† *British Chronologer.*

A. D. 523.) Another Plague cut off many Souls in *Scotland*; And in

A. D. 527.) It prevail'd in *North-Wales*: And in

A. D. 531.) It spread into *South-Wales*, and took away great Multitudes in both Nations.

A. D. 539.) † In the beginning of *Justinian* Emperor, the *Persians*, *Saracens*, *Goths*, *Vandals*, *Franks*, and other barbarous Nations, made such dreadful Devastations and Massacres in the Empire; that the Earth was left uncultivated: This occasion'd the most horrible Famine in *Italy* that was ever heard of: In some places they were forc'd to make Bread of Acorns, some stoop'd down to eat Grass, but being unable to rise up, they dy'd with some of it in their Mouths: Some destroy'd themselves to prevent the Torments of a lingering Death: Two Women living in a House accustomed to entertain Passengers, kill'd 17 of them while they slept one after another, and devour'd them: And some Mothers in the Bitterness of Hunger murder'd and eat their own Infants. It was so grievous and mortal, that no less than 50000 Persons are said to have been starv'd to death in the *Picentin* alone, and in *Greece* many more.

A. D. 544. and 18 of *Justinian* Emperor.]
*An universal Pestilence began at *Pelusium* in

† Baron. Annal. ad Ann. Mr. Echard. Rom. Hist. Vol. 4. page 123.

* Baron. Annal. Evagrius schol. lib. 4. c. 29. Mr. Echard. Rom. Hist. Vol. 4. in *Justinian*.

Egypt,

Egypt, and from thence spread over the whole World, sparing neither Age, Sex, Constitution nor Degree among Men; no Family, City, Country, neither Island, Cave, nor Tops of *Mountains* upon Earth. It began with Apparitions of evil Spirits in human Shape, who struck and frightened Men so, that they went mad and dy'd immediately: Some saw them in their Sleep; others fancy'd they heard a Voice telling them, they were enroll'd in the Number of those that were appointed to die: Some were seiz'd with a deadness upon their Spirits, and an Inclination to Sleep; and unless Care was taken to feed them, they starv'd themselves to Death: The Sick were generally taken with great and painful Swellings in their Groin, therefore it was call'd *Pestis Inguinaria*. The Contagion infected others upon their Approach, or touching the infected; nay, upon seeing them at a distance. In the 2d year of its Tyranny it visited *Constantinople* with that Fury, that for four months at first, five, and sometimes ten thousand and upwards dy'd every day. Thus it continu'd 52 years together in one place or another, so that the greatest Part of Mankind then living may be said to have been destroy'd by it.

A. D. 552.] A great Famine and Pestilence began in *Scotland*, thro' continual Rain for five months.

A. D. 555. 29. *Justinian*.) A Plague consumed the *Franks* and *German* Soldiers, as they invaded *Italy*, and plunder'd the Temples, &c. as a just Judgment upon their Sacrilege and Barbarity.

A. D.

A. D. 565.] * When *Justinian* the Emperor dy'd, that Plague broke out in *Rome*, spread over all *Italy*, pass'd into *Spain*, and *Portugal*; and from *Spain* in

A. D. 583] It enter'd into *France* by an infected Ship: And from thence over all *Denmark*, *Sweden*, *Muscovy*, and all the Northern Countries.

A. D. 590.] V. Of *Maurit. Emperor*, A violent Plague swept away *Pelagius* the Pope in the first place, and most of the People of *Rome*. It was occasion'd by a great Inundation of the *Tyber* and putrify'd Serpents which lay drowned upon the Shore. It began with an Inflammation of the Groin, and is call'd *Pestis Inguinaria*: Many dropt down dead as they sneezed; and this gave the Original to that Custom among us of saying, *God bless you*. At that time *Gregory* the Great was chosen his Successor tho' unwillingly; and in the year 600, compos'd and first intituled the Use of the *Great Sevenfold Litany* against that publick Calamity, which was so mortal, that 80 dy'd in an hour: And that Litany has been ever since used in the *Latin Church*.

A. D. 625.] A grievous Famine and Plague rag'd in *Britain*.

A. D. 664.] † A raging Plague continued in *Brittain*, for the Space of Five years, first depopulating the Southern Parts, then the Northern, where *Tuda*, a very pious Bishop of Holy-Island deceased, and many thousands

* Baron. *Annal. Tom. 3. Cluv. Hist. Mundi. Hooker Eccl. Policy page 194. Forbes Inst. Hist. page 163.*

† Terrell's *Gen. hist. of England. Book 4. p. 109, 269.*
besides,

besides, afterwards it invaded *Ireland* with great Fury.

A. D. 665.] Under *Constantinus II.* Emperor, after it had Rain'd *Ashes*, a dreadful Plague began in *Italy*. It is reported, that a Ghost went about sounding an horn, and knocking at every door, and so many knocks as he gave, so many dyed in that House.

A. D. 678.] † When *Egfrid K.* of *Northumberland* reign'd, there was never a drop of Rain in *England* for Three years together: this was followed with a Famine and Pestilence, which swept away *Cedda* the Bishop of the *Mercians*, and many thousands. But *Viulfred B.* of *York* releived many of the poor Saxons, by teaching them the Art of fishing.

A. D. 680.] A grievous Plague raged again in *Rome*, and other Cities of *Italy* in *July*, *August* and *September*, which laid *Sicinnum* waste and other Cities.

A. D. 681.] A great Plague raged in *England*.

A. M. 696.] * Under *Leontius*, the Emperor, A deadly Contagion (called the Plague of the *Euboes*, because People were taken at first with great Swellings in the Groin, and other Parts of the Body) broke out in *Constantinople*, which in the Space of five Months cut off a vast Number of the Inhabitants.

A. D. 703.] There was a great Pestilence in *Scotland*: And in.

A. D. 713.) It broke out again there, devouring what had escaped the former.

† Baron. *Annal.* Tom. 8. page 562. *Beda lib.* 4.

* Baron. *Annal.* Tom. 9. page 182. & page 15.

A. D. 717.) *Leo. II. Isaur. Emperor*, A deadly Plague and Famine began in *Constantinople* after the *Saracens* had besieged it for Three Years ; which cut off 300,000 People in a very short time ; besides such a great Number of the Enemy dyed, that of 3000 Sail, scarcely five returned home. Afterwards it invaded *Rome* also, and cut off 30000 of its Inhabitants.

A. D. 729.) A great Plague raged in the City of *Norwich*.

A. D. 739.) A great Famine and Pestilence spread over *Britain, Wales, and Scotland*.

A. D. 749.) † V. Of *Constant. Copron. the Emperor*, a furious Pestilence broke out in *Calabria*, passing thro' *Sicily* into *Greece* and *Thrace*, it invaded *Constantinople* ; where it rag'd with that insatiable Thirst for three years together, insomuch that the Living were hardly sufficient to bury the Dead : and at last, there was scarce Ground enough for Interment. Tho' this Plague was acknowledged by all to be the immediate Finger of God, that it serv'd rather to terrify than reform *Mankind*. It was observ'd, that they who seiz'd with this Contagion, were doom'd to die by little Crosses made as it were with Oyl on their Cloaths, which by no Art could be remov'd.

A. D. 762.) A great Plague spread over *Wales*.

A. D. 771.) A great Plague at *Chichester* cut off 34000 Souls.

^a Echard Rom. hist. Vol. 4. page 159.

A. D. 774.) A grievous Famine and Pestilence spread over all the *West* of *Scotland*: And in

A. D. 785.] It extended over the whole Kingdom.

A. D. 788.] A great Plague rag'd in the City of *Canterbury*.

A. D. 800.] Under *Charles* the Great, a most dreadful Pestilence spread over all the *East*.

A. D. 803.] A most grievous Pestilence rag'd in *Scotland*.

A. D. 820.] * By the Abundance of Rain in *France* for many Months, a Plague began there, and consum'd both Men and Beasts.

A. D. 823.] A great Famine and Pestilence, did much harm in *Scotland*.

A. D. 825.] In the Reign of *Lewis* the Pious, a Pestilence kill'd almost all the Inhabitants in *France* and *Germany*.

A. D. 836.] Such a grievous Famine and Mortality rag'd in *Wales*, that the Country was cover'd over divers Places with the Carcasses of Men and Beasts.

A. D. 853.] A great Pestilence spread in many Parts of *Scotland*.

A. D. 856.] *Lud.* II. Emp. After a great Inundation of the River *Tyber*, a Contagion (call'd the Pestilence of the *Jaws*, because it affected the Throat and Jaws, with incredible Fluxion and Pain) infected *Rome* and cut off many Souls.

A. D. 863.] A great Famine and Pestilence rag'd in *Scotland*.

A. D. 869.] A great Famine and Mortality continued 10 Months, when the *Danish* Army lay at *York*.

A. D. 884.] The City of *Oxford* was then visited with the Plague.

* *Baron.* *Annal.* *Tom.* 10. *Pestilentia faucum dicta est.*

A. D. 887.] A grievous Famine and Mortality continued 2 Years in *England*: And in

A. D. 890.] * It spread into *Scotland*.

A. D. 897.] A great Plague rag'd in *England*; by which several Bishops and great Men died, a vast number of the common People; and also much Cattle.

A. D. 922.] A great Plague in *Scotland* swept away many.

A. D. 930.] † Under *Constant. VI.* a Plague rag'd in *Constantinople*, and with much fury almost depopulated that Populous City.

A. D. 931.] A grievous Famine and Mortality rag'd in *Wales*.

A. D. 936.] A most terrible Famine began in *Scotland*, and continu'd 4 Years; so that they were ready to eat one another.

A. D. 954.] A great Pestilence in *Scotland* cut off above 40,000 Souls.

A. D. 961.] A great Mortality rag'd in *London*.

A. D. 964.) A violent Plague consum'd the greatest Part of *Otho's* Army, both noble and ignoble.

A. D. 968. A grievous Famine and Plague depopulated several Towns and Villages in *Britain*.

A. D. 982.) 9. *Otho 11 Emp.* A grievous Famine and Pestilence rag'd thro' all the Eastern and Western Empire: which was thought to be a Judgment from Heaven, because of the Impiety of Pope *John 16th.* a most Monstrous Atheist. But the People of *Lacedæmone* being almost all consum'd, and being destitute of all human Aid, they implored the Divine; and by the Prayers of *St. Nico* (as *Baron.* affirms) they were deliver'd therefrom.

* Terrells Gen. Hist. of *Engl.* ad An. † Ech. Rom. Hist. V. 5. p. 89.

A. D. 988.) † A terrible Pestilence and Famine thro' all *Germany*, was occasion'd by a long drought, which consum'd all the Fruits of the Earth; whereby many Thousands perish'd in great Misery.

A. D. 1006.) * *Basil. and Constant. Emp.* A dread'ul Famine and Pestilence wasted *Germany, France, Italy,* and all the *Roman Provinces* to that Degree, that the Living not being able to bury the Dead, many of them dropt down into the Graves along with them. But *St. Odilo*, Abbot of *Cluniac*, having parted with all that he had to relieve the People from starving: At last he dispos'd of the Crown which the Emperor had bestow'd upon him; nay, broke the Church Plate, and Ornaments to buy Corn for their Relief: And finding two Boys starved to Death in the Streets, he stript himself of his Flannel Waste-Coat, wherewith he wrapt the Corpses, and so buried them both; by such Acts of Charity he supported many Thousands from starving, and was a happy Means by his Prayers and Supplications, to put a stop to the Plague. What a glorious Work is it, for such *Mento, stand in the Gap?* Like *Phineas*, they turn away God's Anger from his People. Surely they are Men greatly beloved of God and Man.

A. D. 1008.) A grievous Famine and Pestilence rag'd in *Wales*.

A. D. 1025.) When *Canutus* the *Dane* reign'd, there was a very great Plague in the North of *England*.

A. D. 1029.) † *Conrad. 1 Emp.* A Plague devour'd the People of *Limosin* in *France*, in such a dreadful Manner, that no Remedies cou'd prevail against it, until their Bishops having made Intercession to the

† *Baron. Temp. 10. p. 844.* * *British Chronol.* † *Baron. Annals. Temp. XI. p. 26. p. 99. Cluver Hist. Mundi.*

Body of *St. Martialis*, their first Bishop and Patron (as *Baronius* affirmeth) they were delivered from it: But he might as well have ascrib'd this to *Æsculapius*, as the old *Romans* did.

A. D. 1030.) * Under *Romanus* II. Emp. So great a Plague and Famine rag'd throughout *Cappadacia*, *Paphlagonia*, *Armenia*, and several other Provinces, that the Inhabitants were forc'd to disperse themselves into other Parts of the Empire.

A. D. 1038.) † Under *Conrad* II. Emp. In the Month of *July*, a raging Plague cut off the greater Part of the Imperial Army, and most of the Inhabitants of the *Adriatic* Shore, it continu'd 3 Years in *Thrace*, and laid *Pergamus* and other Cities Waste. It was occasion'd by the Stench of vast Swarms of *Locusts*, which (having devour'd every kind of Fruit) the Wind blew into the Sea.

A. D. 1042.) A grievous Famine and Plague rag'd in *England*: And in

A. D. 1047.) It invaded *Scotland* with much Fury.

A. D. 1053.) * Under *Hen. III.* Emp. A great Pestilence swept away the 3d Part of the People of *Germany*, and other Countries; therefore the Emperor call'd a Council at *Goslar* that Year, to implore the divine Mercy: whereat Pope *Victor* II. was present, and several Ecclesiasticks of the greatest Quality.

A. D. 1066.) † When *Constantine* Ducas was Emp. the *Uzians*, a People of *Scythia*, pass'd the *Ister*, with an Army of 500,000 Men, and made a terrible Inundation into the *Roman* Empire, destroying all before them. The Pious Emperor betook himself to Prayer, Humiliation and Fasting; and afterwards march'd with

* Mr. *Echard* Rom. Hist. Vol. 5. p. 146. † *Cluver.* Hist. mundi. * Mr. *Savage* Hist. of Ger. p. 114. † *Baron.* Annal. Tom. XI. Mr. *Eccl.* Rom. Hist. v. 5. p. 187.

an handful of Men: But God sent a dreadful Plague, which consum'd them, and so that great Army was conquer'd without his Arms.

A. D. 1077.) *When Michael VII. call'd *Ducas*, was Emp. A Plague and Famine rag'd so furiously in Greece, that the Living did scarce suffice to bury the Dead; during which the covetous and improvident Emperor, (who ought to have relieved the Inhabitants with a Fatherly Affection) lessened the Measure of the Publick Corn in *Constantinople*, which rais'd the Price of it: And this deservedly brought upon him the Surname of *Parapinaces* i. e. the Quarter of a Bushel. The Avarice of this Emperor render'd him so ungrateful to the People; that he resign'd the Imperial Ornaments, and enter'd into a Monastery. So true is the Wise-Man's Observation, Prov. XI. 26. *He that withholdeth Corn, the People shall curse him; But Blessing shall be upon the Head of him that selleth it.*

A. D. 1084.) A Plague in *Rome* cut off all the Army of *Hen. III.* Emperor: And

A. D. 1086.) A dreadful Famine and Pestilence rag'd at that Time thro' the Empire.

A. D. 1093.) Such a dreadful Famine and Plague rag'd in *England* for 3 Years, that the Quick were scarce able to bury the Dead.

A. D. 1095.] † *Henry IV.* Emperor, at the first Expedition of the *Holy War* against the *Sarazens*, 40,000 Soldiers dy'd of the Plague in the Army of *Peter the Hermit*: And after the Slaughter of 100,000 *Turks*, the Plague cut off 50,000 *Christians* under *Godfrey of Bulloign*; and those that remained were pinch'd with such a Famine, that they could not be

* *Ingens fames quæ sub eo grassata est, a Pinacio medicini Quadrante Cognomentum Parapinacii accepit.* Melanth. Coron. p. 407. Ech. Rom. H. V. 5. † *Baron Annal. Tom. XI. ad An. 1095. Cluver. Hist. Mund.*

restrain'd

restrain'd from devouring the stinking Bodies of those of their Enemies which they had killd a little before. This was the fatal Beginning of those bloody Wars, wherein *Christendom* has been embroil'd to this Day.

A. D. 1100.] When *Alexius* was Emperor, a Famine and Pestilence swept off great Numbers of *Behemond's* Army, which Besieged *Dyrrachium* against the Emperor.

A. D. 1112.] There was another Plague in *England*, and also a great Murrain of Cattle.

A. D. 1167.] In the 13th Reign of *Frid.* Emperor a Plague cut off in seven Days, the Chiefest of the Nobility, Officers, and most part of the *Imperial* Army lying then by *Rome* in great Misery.

A. D. 1202.] In the Time of *Alexius*, a grievous Pestilence spread over the East.

A. D. 1215.] * In the Reign of *Henry* Emperor, a Plague broke out among the People of *Tongres* in the *Low Countries*, and swept them almost all off the Face of the Earth.

A. D. 1220.] A violent Famine and Pestilence rag'd in *Poland* for three Years: It began after a dreadful Rain the whole Summer.

A. D. 1220.] *Frid.* II. Emperor, a violent Pestilence began at the Siege of *Damiatta* in *Egypt*, which destroyed so many, that few remained alive in that populous City, and consumed vast Numbers of the *Sultan's* Army.

A. D. 1223.] *Frid.* II. Emperor, there was such a great Mortality among the Cattle for three Years, that the third Part of them dy'd: It began in *Hungary*, and spread over *Germany*, *Italy*, *France* and other Countries.

* *Baron Annal.* Tom. 13. *Cromer de Orig. Polon.* p. 130.

A. D. 1225.] A Plague began at the Siege of *Avignon*, which cut off the Emperors Army, and afterwards spread thro' all *France*.

A. D. 1229.] At the Conquest of *Majorca*; after the Slaughter of 20,000 *Moers*, and as many *Christians*, such a dreadful Plague swept away the Army and Natives, that King *James* was forc'd to send to *Catalonia*, to bring Inhabitants from thence to repopulate the Island. This was the first Plague that was known to be there.

A. D. 1231.] After an Inundation of the *Tyber*, a Pestilence began in *Rome*, which scarcely left the tenth part of the Citizens.

A. D. 1232.] Under *Frid. II.* Emperor, after a terrible Lightning and Hail, a violent Pestilence broke out and spread over the whole Empire.

A. D. 1234.) A great Famine and Pestilence rag'd in *England*, especially in the Diocess of *Oxford*.

A. D. 1244.) A great Famine and Plague began in *Tuscany*, from vast Swarms of *Locusts*, and cut off most of the Inhabitants of *Milan*.

A. D. 1247.) A grievous Pestilence rag'd in *England*, and cut off most of the People.

A. D. 1248.) Under *Baldwin II.* Emperor a violent Plague rag'd in the Army of *Lewis Pious* King of *France*, at the Siege of *Cyprus* against the *Turks*.

A. D. 1279.) Another Plague broke out in his Army at the Siege of *Tunis*.

A. D. 1279.) A great Plague rag'd in *Scotland*.

A. D. 1283.) In the 34th of *Alexander* King of *Scotland*, another destroyed much People in a manner which before had not been known.

A. D. 1315.) Such a Famine rag'd in *England*, that Men did eat one another, Prisoners devour'd such as came newly among them, and Mothers eat their own Children: This was followed with a very grievous Plague,

Plague, which swept away what had not been starv'd to Death by the Famine.

A. D. 1340.) * Such a Plague rag'd thro' all Germany, that many Thousands dy'd with much Pain; so that it was said, *'twas a Misery to Live and Pain to Die.*

A. D. 1346.) * In the Time of Charles IV. Emperor, a most dreadful Pestilence broke out in *Asia Superior*, from an abominable Odure of Fire and Sulphurous Vapours, which first destroy'd the Fruits of the Earth; afterwards the Bodies of Men; some charg'd the *Jews* with poisoning the Waters of the Rivers, for which they were severely Persecuted, and many of them were put to Death. Such as were infected with it began to spit and vomit Blood, and so dy'd suddenly or within two or three Days. It overspread and wast'd all the habitable World, so that there was not a House or Family upon Earth but felt the Stroke of it: Three Parts scarcely reviv'd, and in many Places scarce the tenth or twentieth Part was left alive. It enter'd into *Europe* in the Year 1348 where it destroyed the third Part of Men, and spread over every Kingdom of it, and laid them almost waste: In the Town of *Florence* alone 60,000 died in one Year: In *Saragossa* dy'd every day more than 100: In *Majorca*, of every hundred there dy'd 80, and in less than a month 150,000 died in that Isle; so that it was almost destitute of Inhabitants a second Time. In *Italy* it rag'd three Years, where out of every Thousand scarce ten surviv'd: Among the *Venetians* it destroy'd above threescore Thousand: In *Lubeck* of the *Lower Saxony* 1500 died in twenty four Hours, and 90,000 in all:

* Baron. Annal. Tom. II. p. 690. Chron. Thirteenth hist. of Majorca, Stow Annal. p. 249. Baker Chron. p. 143. Collier's Eccl. hist. Vol. I. page 552.

It rag'd among the *Turks* and mowed down many thousands in *France*: And in

A. D. 1348. 21. of K. *Edward III.*] † It rag'd in *England* nine years, and so wasted the Country, that almost none were left alive; for very few or none that were seiz'd, escaped. In *Yarmouth* 7052 Persons died in one Year: In *London* between Jan. 1. and July 1. 57374 died, and particularly that Learned and Pious Archbishop of *Cant.* *Bradwardin*, call'd Dr. *Profundus*. And not having Ground sufficient to bury the Dead, Sir *Walter de Manny* purchas'd 13 Acres of Ground near *St. Johns-street*, call'd *Spittle-croft*, but now the *Charter-house*, for a *Burying Place*: And accordingly in the year following there were more than 50000 buried there. It began with a *Fever*, difficulty of *Breathing*, and *Spitting of Blood*; then the Sick had Spots and Swellings in the *Groin*, *Arm pits*, and behind the *Ears*, and died all in five Days time at least. It continu'd from the year 1346 untill 1357, i. e. ten years, and (as Mr. *Stow* says) is the third *Universal Plague* that hath happen'd since the *Deluge*; and certainly, no Age ever endur'd such a Contagion and Mortality.

A. D. 1352.] A great Famine rag'd in *Barbary* and *Morroco*, where the Price of Corn was so great, that many upon hope of inordinate Gain, carry'd thither so much of it, that a far greater Famine and Mortality spread over *Italy*, *France*, *Spain*, and other Places in *Europe*.

A. D. 1358.) A violent Pestilence rag'd thro' all *Germany*, from *August* until *Christmas* following, which destroy'd many Thousands.

A. D. 1361.) 35th. of King *Edward III.* Another Pestilence (call'd the *second Pestilence*, because it was

† *Stow. Annal. Baker. Chron. Collier. Eccl. Hist. Vol. I. Compleat Hist. of England. Vol. 1. p. 224.*

the second which happen'd in his Reign) broke out again, which cut off *Henry Duke of Lancaster*, *Reginald Lord Cobham*, *Walter Fitz-Warren*, five Bishops, and many People of the Nation.

A. D. 1379. 3d. of K. *Rich. II.*] * A dreadful Plague rag'd in *England*, which almost depopulated the Northern Counties.

A. D. 1381. *Wenceslaus* Emperor) A great Plague spread in *Hungary* and *Bohemia*, and in one Parish in *Prague* made 3500 Funerals in four Months Time.

A. D. 1389.) A Plague rag'd in *England*, especially in *Cambridge*.

A. D. 1391. 15th *Richard II.*)* A Plague rag'd in the North of *England*, whereof in *York* 10,000 dy'd; and in *Norfolk* a greater Number.

A. D. 1395. under *Bajazet II.*) || A dreadful Plague rag'd among the *Turks*.

A. D. 1400.) A dreadful Pestilence began in *Rome*, by Reason of vast Numbers that crouded thither to the Celebration of the *Jubilee*, and most Part of them died thereof, there being every Day six or eight Hundred Funerals: Afterwards it spread over all *Italy*.

A. D. 1402.) † A Plague swept off the greatest Part of the great *Tamerlane's* Army then passing into *Egypt*.

A. D. 1406. the eighth of King *Henry IV.*)* A Plague spread thro' *England*, and in *London* only 30,000 Persons dy'd of it in one Summer.

A. D. 1424.) An Epidemic Pestilence in *Novogorod*, one of the principal Cities of *Russia*, consum'd in less than six Months 80,000 Souls.

A. D. 1439.) || A grievous Pestilence in *Basil*, destroy'd *Lud.* Patriarch of *Aquileja*, *Lud.* the Roman *Protonotary*, several of the Nobility and Clergy assem-

* Baker Chron. p. 166. | Jo. Leunclav. Hist. Mussulman † Melan. Coron. p. 644. † Baron. Annal. Tom. 14.

bled at the Council of *Basil*, and so many of the Inhabitants, that there was not Ground enough to bury the Dead, there being above a hundred Funerals every Day; yet the Council would not adjourn, thinking 'twas their Duty to take Care of the Church, even with the Peril of their own Lives; For 'tis the Opinion of † Divines, that *Magistrates*, *Ministers*, and *Physicians* ought not to forsake a People that is infected; but to *oversee*, *support*, and *direct* them in their Misery: But this City of *Basil* was visited afterwards with the Plague seven Times in seventy Years-

A. D. 1448. 9th. of *Frid. III.*] * A great Pestilence rag'd over all *Italy* and other Places for two full years.

A. D. 1460. 21. of *Frid. III. Emp.*] * A Pestilence began in *Germany* about *Christmas*, and cut off most of the strongest Men, but very few Women or Children. In this Calamity the Bishops of *Brunswick* appointed the Inhabitants to say *Mass*, and fast 40 days upon Bread and Water only, that they might appease the divine Wrath.

A. D. 1475.] † A great Plague rag'd in *Majorca*.

A. D. 1479. 17th. of *Edw. 4*] * A Pestilence in *England* swept away more People in four Monthsthan the Wars had done in 15 years.

A. D. 1480.] A grievous Pestilence broke out in *Hungary* in the Month of *July*, and over-ran all *Cracovia*, *Poland*, *Muscovy*, *Russia*, and *Bohemia*.

A. D. 1486. 1 of *Hen. VII.*] † The *Sweating Sickness* was first observ'd in *England*: It continu'd almost constantly 40 years together, and took away such Num-

† *Hic queritur, An liceat homini fugere in tempore Pestis? Resp. Quos impedit vocatio quo minus cedere possunt, illis non licet tunc fugere: uti sunt Magistratus, Pastores, Medici ordinarii &c. qui liberi sunt & immunes fugere possunt, si quidem sibi metuant ab ista Lue. Alsted. Theol. Catech. § 3. p. 604.*

* *Baron. Annal. Contin. Spond. ‡ Baker page 263. Cambden. Britania, Stow Annal, Dr. Brooker's Hist. of pe. Diff. &c. † Hist. of Majorca.*

bers of People, that Foreigners hardly believ'd there were so many in the whole Island: It was call'd *Sudor Anglicus*, because it took it's Rise from *England*, and (as some report) seized the *English People* only, nay pursu'd them into other Countries, and distinguish'd them for the Calamity; tho' afterwards it spread over all *Germany* and other Countries.

A. D. 1492.) ¶ A Plague spread over all *Hungary*, *Poland*, *Muscovy*, and *Russia*; destroying many thousands of People.

A. D. 1493.) † A Plague broke out again in *Majorca*; which was occasion'd by the coming of one *Boga* from an infected Place, and hiding a Pocket full of Money in a Cave of the Island; but after his Ship had perform'd Quarentine, the Goods suspected were Burn'd, and the rest exposed to the Air forty Days; he took up the Pocket which infected the whole Island, and quickly destroyed the Owner and almost all the Inhabitants. Thus the *Love of Money was the Root of that Evil*.

A. D. 1500.) * Pope *Alexander* celebrating the *Jubilee*, drew vast Multitudes to *Rome*; a violent Plague began there, and rag'd thro' *Italy*; where it destroy'd the Third, and in other Places the half Part of Mankind.

A. D. 1501. 15th. King *Henry VII.*) † The *Sweating Sicknefs* rag'd in *England*, and destroyed in *London* 30,000 that Year.

A. D. 1508. 27. K. *Hen. VII.*) ‡ It broke out again, and rag'd over all *England* with much Fierceness.

A. D. 1509.) A Pestilence began in *Calais*, and afterwards it spread over all *Germany*, *Italy*, and most Kingdoms of *Europe*: At *Verona* it destroy'd 10,000 Persons, and no less than 25 *Germans* were infected with one Leather Garment.

¶ *Cromar, de Orig. Polon. p. 296. † Hist. of Majorca. p. 298.*
 * *Cluyser. Hist. Mundi. ‡ Baker. Chron. p. 396. & 316.* A.D.

A. D. 1518. 9th of K. Hen. V. ill.) The *Sweating Sickness* broke out again in *England*, whereof infinite Multitudes in many places died, especially in *London*: It was so violent, that in three and sometimes two hours it took away Men's Lives, and spared neither rich nor poor: Thus it continued raging from *July* to *December*.

A. D. 1521.) * A Famine and Pestilence began at the Siege of the Castle of *Belver* in *Majorca*, which destroy'd above 30,000 People, so that the Government publish'd a Decree at the end of the Year, to grant to all Strangers (who would come within the space of two Years with their Families, and repeople the Island) Immunity from all Taxes whatsoever.

A. D. 1522. 13th of King *Henry VIII.*) There was a great Mortality in *London* and other Places of the Realm; whereof Dr. *James Bishop* of *London*, many Men of Honour, besides innumerable common People died.

A. D. 1525.) † The *Sweating-Sickness* took its Progress from *England*, and in 5 Yeats Time march'd thro' *Germany*, the *Low-Countries*, *Zealand*, *Brabant*, *Flanders*, *France*, *Denmark*, and *Norway*: So merciless was the Distemper, that when it first entered a City, it seiz'd 5 or 600 a Day; and scarce Six recovered. That Year a *Hectick Pestilence* rag'd at *Leyden*, *Vicna*, and other Cities, whereof all that had it died.

A. D. 1527.) * When *Char. V.* sack'd *Rome*, and forc'd the Pope and his Cardinals to retire to the Castle of *St. Angelo*, a grievous Plague consum'd great Numbers of the *Imperial Army*; and those that remain'd, were forc'd to retire towards *Naples* at the Approach of the Confederates who came to aid the Pope.

* *Hist. Majorca* page 279. † Dr. *Brake*'s *hist. of pest. Distemp.*

* *Savages complet hist Gesto*, page 172.

A. D. 1528.) 8th of *Char. V.* A Plague and Famine consum'd the *French Army* before *Naples*; which spread over all *Italy*, and destroy'd many Thousands.

A. D. 1529.) * 20th of King *Hen. 8.* In the End of *May* the *Sweating-Sickness* began again in *London*, cut off many Men of Note in the King's Court; so that the Term and Circuit of the Assizes were adjourned; and afterwards it infected all Places of the Realm.

A. D. 1541.) † A Plague broke out in *Geneva*, Nov. 21 and swept away many of the Inhabitants. The Council wou'd not permit *Calvin* and *Castelio* to visit the infected, because of his Serviceableness to the Church and City; but they appointed *Peter Planches* to do it, who quickly lost his Life in that Service.

A. D. 1542.) A Plague rag'd at *Breslaw*, the Metropolis of *Silesia*, whereof 5900 died in 22 Weeks. The Infection lay hid in some Linnen 14 Years; which being opened, the Infection spread again. So it lay hid in a Quilt 7. Years, when the Plague was in *Venice*; and in some Cords which had been us'd in burying the infected People when the Plague was at *Justinopolis* in *Italy*; after they had layn hid in the Church about 20 or 30 Years; upon which the Plague broke out again, and destroy'd 10,000 Persons there. There are many such Instances of the Power and Efficacy of *Pestilential Contagion*, which People can never cautiously enough avoid.

A. D. 1543. 36th of King *Hen. 8.*) A great Pestilence rag'd in *London*, so that the *Micbaelmas* Term was kept at *St. Albans*. This is the Sixth Time that the Plague or *Sweating-Sickness*, broke out most violently in this Reign.

A. D. 1551. 5th of King *Edw. 6.*) * The *Sweating-Sickness* return'd into *England*, and first infected *Shrewsf-*

* Baker. Chron. page 317. † Dr. Spon. hist. Genev. p. 116.

‡ Collier's Eccl. Hist. Vol. 2. page 311.

bury, then the Northern Parts; and was so Mortal in London, that the first Week 800 Persons died.

A. D. 1557.) A pestilential Distemper rag'd in Germany for several Years together, and cut off many in the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, or Eighth Day at farthest.

A. D. 1558. 5th of Queen Mary,) † There was such a Mortality in England, that many Churches were destitute of divine service, by the Death of the Clergy; and much Corn was lost in the Fields for want of Workmen.

A. D. 1563. 6th of Queen Eliz.) A violent Pestilence began in the English Army at Haverdegrace in Normandy, for want of fresh Water and Provisions; and the few Soldiers that came over, infected the whole Nation with it in such a miserable Manner, that 21500 died of it in London in one Year.

A. D. 1564.) * An Epidemical Disease or Pestilence, was very fatal to Mankind in most Parts of Europe; in Germany alone it cut off to the Number of 300,000 Persons: And it did almost depopulate Constantinople, Alexandria, Leyden, London, Dantzick, Vienna, Cologne, the upper Rhine, Basil, and other Cities.

A. D. 1566. 2d Of Maximil II. Emp.) A grievous Pestilence call'd the Hungarick Disease, began at Comorva, increased at Gower in Hungary, where the Imperialists lay against the Turks: And the disbanded Soldiers spread it over all Hungary, Italy, and Germany. It cut off above 70000 of the Turkish Army, and many Thousand Christians in most Places of Europe.

A. D. 1576. 12. Maximil. II.) ‡ A general Pestilence began in Trent, past over Verona, Milan, Cremona, Pavia, destroying almost all the Inhabitants of these Cities, and in 3 Years spread over all Italy and other

† Holling. Stow. Baker Chron. &c. * Dr. Brookes hist. of pest. Dist. ‡ Baron. Annal. Tom. 3. cont.

places of *Eur ope*: Among the *Venetians* it cut off 70 or 100 000 Souls.

A. D. 1580.) * After a dry Season, which consum'd all the Fruits of the Earth, a grievous Pestilence having run thro' *Italy*, *Germany*, *England*, and *France*; it seized on *Portugal* and cut off very many People; and afterward spread over all *Spain*.

A. D. 1591. 15th of *Roiolph II.*) † A grievous Famine spread over all *Italy*, and in *Rome* cut off about 60,000 People.

A. D. 1594. 36th. Of *Queen Eliz.*) * A great Plague swept away the Lord Mayor, Three Aldermen, several other Great Men; and 17890 of the Inhabitants of *London*: So that the *Michaelmas Term* was held at *St. Albans*.

A. D. 1595. *Mabius et. III.*) † A Famine began among the *Turkish Army* in *Hungary*, which was so great, that the *Tartar Women* that follow'd the Camp, eat their own Children. This was accompanied with a most terrible Plague, so that of Four score and Five Thousand *Turks* and *Tartars* which came into *Hungary*, scarce Eight Thousand remain'd alive. It wasted also almost the *Venetian Fleet* upon the Coast of *Dalmatia*, so that most of their Gallies had neither Soldier nor Mariner left on Board; and above 20,000 of them were consum'd.

A. D. 1603. 1. of *K. James I.*) * A grievous Plague in *London* destroy'd in one week 3090; from the 23d of December 1602 to the 2d of December following 30578, and of all Diseases 38244 that year.

A. D. 1611.) The City of *Constantinople* was so grievously afflicted with the Plague, that in 7 months 200,000 of the Inhabitants died of it, and the Grand

* Hist. of Port. p. 80
Hist. Turke Knolls p. 1

† Stow Annal. p. 1

† Baron. Annal. Tom. 3. cont. p. 7191 † Rich.
1060. * Baker chron. p. 422. * Idem p. 448.
1041. comp leat hist of Engl. V. 3. p. 4.

Seignior was forced to retire to his Palace of *Barut Bassa*, which is about a League and an Half distant from the City.

A. D. 1625. 7th of King *Charles I.*] A very great and mortal Plague rag'd in *London* and the Towns adjoyning, in such a dreadful Manner, that from the 22d of Dec. 1624. to 23. of Dec. 1625. There died within *London*, the Liberties of the City, in *Lambeth*, *Newington*, *Stepney*, *Hackney*, and *Islington*, Three Score and Three Thousand and One: In *Westminster* of all Diseases died Two Thousand Five Hundred and Forty: In *Stepney* Four Thousand, Four Score and Nine. This (says Mr. * *Stow*) was the greatest Sickness that happened in *London*, except that in the Time of King *Edward III.* and in the Second Year of King *James I.* This Plague rag'd also in *Holland*, at the Siege of *Breda*, in *Constantinople*, and other Places in *Europe*, and sent many Millions to the Grave.

A. D. 1630.] † In the Month of *July*, the Plague spread over *Italy*, *France*, and *Venice*, which in the former Year the *German* Soldiers had brought into, and spread over *Germany*: It wasted almost all the Inhabitants of *Mantua*, *Milan*, the *Valteline*, *Venice*, and all that Republick.

A. D. 1636. 12th of *Char. I.*] ‡ A second Plague broke out in *London*; in the same Place, viz. among the Butchers in the Row leading from *Aldgate* to *White-Chappel*, and swept away 10400. and upwards: All that dy'd that Year were 23359, Persons. Some Historians have observ'd that these two Plagues began in the same House, on the same Day of the Month, and destroy'd about the same Number of People.

* *Stow*, Annal. p. 1041. Compleat hist. of Engl. Vol. 3. p. 4.

† *Cluver. hist. Mundi. p. 814. Grimst. hist. of the Netherlands*

Bar. Nani. hist. of Venice. ‡ Compleat hist. of Engl. Vol. 3.

A. D. 1643.) A Pestilential Disease cut off many of the Earl of *Essex's* Army, then besieging *Reading*; which spread into the King's lying at *Oxford*; and through other Places of the Kingdom.

A. D. 1650. *Char. II.*] * A Plague rag'd then over all the Kingdom of *Ireland*, especially in *Dublin*, where there was scarce a House free of the Sicknefs, and 800 dy'd in a Week: This was the most grievous Sicknefs that for 50. Years before had afflicted that Kingdom. The Famine was so severe that in many Places of that Island, several cou'd not be withholden from human Flesh. Besides these Plagues, the Merciless Sword of *Ireton*, after *Cromwell* had left it, most barbarously scourg'd that impious Nation.

A. D. 1665. 17th of *Char. II.*] *London* was visited again with an extraordinary Plague, which may truly be call'd the *Great Plague*: The Year before it rag'd in *Egypt*, *Greece*, *Germany*, *Holland*, and other Kingdoms; from whence it was transported into *London* about the middle of *May* 1665, and spread with such intolerable Infection thro' this City and Suburbs, that in one Week it kill'd 7165. and in less than one Year 68586. some say, 100,000. So that 97301 dy'd that Year in *London* of all Diseases.

† These Three great Plagues happen'd within 60 Years; and the last of them just 40 Years after the First of them; which made some impute a fatality to that Number, as if in this Sense, the Land was to have Rest but 40 years. But, blessed be God, this Nation and City have been free from any Contagious Disease these 60 Years past; therefore, *not unto us, O Lord, but unto thy Name give Glory; for thy Mercy.*

A. D. 1679. *Leopold I. Emp. of Germany,*] ‡ A Pestilence began in *Hungary*, and extended to the Imperial

* Echard. hist. of England Vol. 2. p. 699. † Compleat hist. of Engl. Vol 3. p. 256. ‡ Savag. hist. Germ. p. 528, and 532.

City of *Vienna*, were it made such Havock, that from the Beginning of *June* to the End of *December*, it destroy'd about 49487 Persons; besides abundance of People that died of it in all neighbouring Places.

A. D. 1683.) * When *Vienna* was besieg'd by the *Turks*, a Plague consum'd 3000 Citizens, besides 10000 Soldiers and others, who died by the Sword, Famine and other means, and as many of the *Infidels*.

A. D. 1685.] * A miserable Plague and Famine rag'd in *Hungary*, *Germany*, and other places, whereby many were starv'd to Death; at *Vienna* two Women did eat the Raw Flesh of an Horse lately dead.

A. D. 1720.] † The Plague rag'd at the beginning of the year in *Sidon*, *Tripoli*, *Syria* and *Cyprus*; and in *May* the City of *Marseilles* was visited with the Contagion by some Ships coming from thence: because the Pestilence very frequently rages in these Ports, that City has very often receiv'd it from thence, as in *A. D. 1580, 1630, 1649, 1650, and 1720.* Which began in the Street called *Lescalle*, a Part of the old Town, inhabited only by poor People, and quickly spread it self over the City. But having very little Provision in it, they began to be in want of *Bread-Corn, Meat, Wood, Money*, and all other Necessaries: Therefore *July 31st.* they issued out an Ordinance to oblige all strange Beggars to depart the City, But an *Act of the Parliament of Aix* on the same Day did prohibit the *Marseillians* to stir out of the Bounds of their own Territory, and the Inhabitants of all the Towns and Places of *Provence* to communicate with them, or to harbour them on pain of Death. This confined near 3000 Beggars, and bound over about 100,000 Souls (as it were) to Death; which afforded the most dreadful Scene of Human Misery that ever Destruction form'd in any City of the World, if we may except *Jerusa-*

* *Sir P. Ricaut. Hist. Turk. p. 159.* † *Orig. Journ. of the C. Marl.*

lem. The Infection appear'd with *Buboes*, and tormented them with so much Pain and Misery, that it made some delirious, others it withered into strange Postures, denoting the torturing Venom which struck them to the Heart; others cut their own Throats, some leapt into the Sea, and threw themselves out of Windows to put an End to their Misery: Whatsoever House the Pestilence enter'd into, it carried off the whole Family; and scarcely one escap'd that was seized therewith. The Sickness rag'd in this manner from the 25th of *August* to the end of *September*, destroying 1000 Persons a Day. Never was a City in such a deplorable Condition, the dead Bodies being cast in heaps at the Gates of the *Hospitals* and *Streets*; and every Place being as it were a vast *Church-yard*; then neither Ground nor Buriers could be had to inter them; when those in the City were cut off, they had at several times about 500 *Slaves* from on board of the Gallies, to perform that irksome Office. You might see thousands of putrify'd Bodies lie in every Street; Men, Women, Children, Dogs, Cats, and other Animals corrupting together, and among them as many in a languishing miserable Condition, just expiring. But what could be more piercing than to see many wretched Mothers in all places dying by their dead Infants, and divers poor Orphans hanging upon the Breasts of their deceased Mothers. Nothing could be heard but *Tears, Sighs, Groans: Outcries, Despair, Death and Mortality* in every corner: The Living in a very deplorable Condition, and those that were dead, infecting them with the same Contagion by their stinking Bodies, crawling with Worms, and rotting above Ground, because there were none left to bury them in that hot Season.

Nov. 20. 1720. That dreadful Distemper had visited *Aix*, the Capital of *Provence*, *Toulon*, *Arles*, and a great many Places about *Marseilles*. Afterwards it spread

spread over all *Provence* and *Languedoc*, and has swept away most of the Inhabitants of *Avignon*, *Gevaudan*, *Mende*, *Marvejol*, *Rouffe*, the *Abby* of the *Chambo*, *St. Leger*, *St. Genaix*, *Cenouillac*, and is yet making Progress towards the *Sevennes*, and other places of the Kingdom. Our last Accounts inform us, that about *Oct. 27. 1721. 70* Persons dy'd in a Day at *Avignon*. On *Nov. 3.* they say that *1539* are dead there in a few Months past, *1480* lay sick of the Contagion, and the Hospital of *St. Roch* is burnt with *1400* Persons in it. At *Mende* *1615* have died from the *4th* of *Sept.* last to the *8th* of *Nov.* and *10* or *12* a Day. At *Marvejols*, *Mende*, *Moulines*, *Comtat*, *Besse*, *St. Leger* and other Towns, the Infection has broke out again, and hardly any Body is left alive, now the Contagion threatens the *Lower Languedoc*, *Gascogne*, *Guienne*, *Lyonnois*, and other Provinces of *France*. But how far it may proceed, and when it will abate, he only knows, who is infinite in *Wisdom*, *Power*, and *Goodness*, the Sole Lord of Life and Death.

From this *Historical Account* of *Plagues*, *Pestilences*, and *Famines*, we may observe what a dreadful Destroyer of Mankind these have been: They are the most dreadful Sword of an angry God, which he never draws until the Sins of a wicked People have incens'd him: And therefore from such *Desolation* and *Misery*, from such dreadful *Plague*, *Pestilence*, and *Famine*, Good Lord deliver *BRITIAN*.

WE humbly beseech thee, O Father of all Mercy and God of all Consolation, to look down from Heaven with an Eye of Pity and Compassion upon all the Sons and Daughters of Affliction; withdraw that *Plague*, and grievous Sicknes, which has so miserably wasted our Neighbours: Lord, cast them not away in Displeasure, but in Judgment remember Mercy towards them. Prevent, O Gracious God, the spreading of the like Contagion among us; teach us by that, and all those dreadful *Plagues* which thou hast inflicted upon former Ages for their Iniquities, to fear thy Justice and to love thee for thy Goodness and Forbearance towards us. May they serve to awaken us out of our Security, and to move us to true Repentance and Holiness of Life; defend us as the Apple of thine Eye; protect us from the noisome *Pestilence*, and all other Evils which we most righteously have deserved, and keep us in thy perpetual Peace and Safety, thro' Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen*.

The

The SERMON of POPE GREGORY the GREAT, which he Preach'd at ROME, A. D. 590. in the Time of a very grievous PLAGUE. And also,

HIS INJUNCTION for a *Seven-fold Litaney*, or publick Procession of all the Inhabitants divided into seven Choirs in one Day, according to the Occasion.

DEarly beloved Brethren, it becometh us to Tremble at these Judgments of God now upon us, which we ought to fear even at a Distance. Our present Anguish should be a means of our Conversion; and this Chastisement which we Suffer, ought to soften the hardness of our Hearts: For, as the Prophet testifieth, *Ier. 4. 10. the Sword reacheth into the Soul*. And now, behold! all the People are smitten with the Weapon of celestial Discipline, and every one of us cut off with sudden Destruction. Death not only prevents Languishing, but even (as you see) fore-runs lingring Faintness. Every one is snatch'd away before he can be converted to the Tears of true Repentance. Consider therefore with your selves, how that Man will appear before the Face of a severe Judge, who has no Time to bewail what he has done amiss. The Citizens are not cut off peice-Meal, but they fall down together in Heaps. The Houses are left Empty; the tender Parents behold the dead Corps of their Children, and their own Heirs go before them to the Grave. Let every one of us therefore betake our selves to true Repentance, while we have Time to bemoan our selves before we are struck. Let us call to Mind whatever we have done amiss, and afflict our selves with Weeping for what we have done Wickedly. Let us come before His presence, confessing our Sins, as the Prophet exhorteth, *Let us lift up our Hearts with our Hands unto God*; for by so doing we render our Prayers more prevailing with him. Truly, God adds Hope to our Fear; who says by the Prophet, *Ezek. 33. 11. I have no pleasure in the Death of the Wicked; but that he turn from his way and live*. But let none of us despair for the Heinousness of his Iniquities, seeing a three Days Repen-
tance

tance wip'd off all the Crimes of the secure *Ninivites*; and
 the penitent Thief obtain'd a Reward of eternal Life in the
 Moment of Death. Let us therefore lift up our Hearts, and
 with Confidence presume that we have already obtain'd what
 we have Pray'd for. The Judge is more easily intreated, if
 the Petitioner forsakes his Naughtiness. But when such a
 terrible Sword is drawn against us, let us be importunate in
 Prayer: For that Importunity which is ungrateful to Men
 is very acceptable to the Judge of Truth: Because our af-
 fectionate and merciful God requires, that we shou'd
 wrest our pardon out of his Hands by Prayer; and will
 not unwillingly grant us so much as we may deserve by
 so doing: For so 'tis said by the Psalmist, *call upon me in
 the Day of Trouble; I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorifie
 me.* God is therefore a Witness to himself, seeing he
 desires to shew pity upon his Supplicants, and adviseth us
 to call upon him. Therefore dearly beloved Brethren,
 let us meet together to Morrow early in the Morning,
 with a contrite Heart and upright Conversation, that we
 may celebrate a *Sevenfold Litany*, with a devout Mind
 and Tears in our Eyes, according as it is hereafter ap-
 pointed. Let none of you go into the Fields to Labour;
 let none dare to do any manner of worldly Business, but
 convening with one accord at the Church of the Blessed
Virgin Mary, that we who have Sinned together, may to-
 gether lament our Iniquities; that when the severe Judge
 shall behold us afflicting our selves for our Transgressions,
 he may graciously remit the Execution of that dreadful
 Sentence which he has past upon us.

Sermo Beati GREGORII PAPÆ tempore Morta-
 litatis. Denunciatio pro Septiformi Litania. Ut
 Plebs faciat septem Litanias divisim secundum status
 rationem in uno die.

O Portet fratres carissimi, ut flagella Dei, quæ mature ven-
 tura debuimus saltem presentia & experta timeamus.
 Conversionis nobis aditum dolor aperiatur, & cordis nostri duritiam
 ipsa jam quam patimur penam dissolvat. Ut enim Propheta teste
 prædictum est: Pervenit Gladius usque ad Animam. Ecce-
 enim cuncta Plebs celestis ira mucrone perculitur & repentina
 singuli cada vastantur. Nec languor Mortem prævenit, sed &
 planguoris moras, ut cernitis, mors ipsa præcurrit percussis quis-

† Vid. S. Greg. lib. 2. Ep. 2. Baron Annal. Tom. 8. p. 5.

que ante respicitur, quam ad lamenta penitentia convertetur. Pensate ergo qualis ad Conspectum districti iudicis pervenit, cui non vacat flere quod fecit. Habitatores quippe non ex parte subtrahuntur, sed pariter corruunt. Domus vacua relinquuntur, filiorum funera parentes aspiciunt, & sui eos ad interitum heredes precedunt. Unusquisque ergo nostrum ad penitentia lamenta confugiat dum flere ante percussione Vacat. Revocemus ante oculos Mentis quicquid errando commissimus: & quod nequiter egimus, flendo puniamus. Præveniamus faciem ejus in Confessione, & sicut Prophetæ admonet: Levemus Corda nostra cum manibus ad deum. Ad deum quippe corda cum manibus levare, est orationis nostra studium cum merito bona operationis erigere. Dat profecto, dat tremori nostro fiduciam, qui per Prophetam Clamat. Nolo mortem peccatoris, sed ut convertatur & vivat. Nullus autem de iniquitatum suarum immunitate desperet. Veterinosas namque Ninivitarum culpas triduanæ penitentia abstergit; & conversus Lairo vite præmia etiam in ipsa Sententia sua Mortis emeruit. Levemus igitur Corda & presumanus nos jam percepisse quod petimus. Citius ad precem Iudex floriatur, si a pravitate sua positor corrigatur. Imminente ergo tanta animadversionis gladio, nos importunis precibus infestamus. Eamque quæ ingrata esse hominibus importunitas solet, iudicis veritatis placeat: Quia pius ac misericors deus a se vult veniam precibus exigi, qui quantum meremur, non vult irasci. Hinc etenim per Psalmistam ducitur: Invoca me die tribulationis tue, & ipsam te & magnificabit. Ipse ergo sibi testis est, quia invocantibus misereri desiderat, qui nunc ut invocetur. Proinde, fratres charissimi, cunctis corde & cunctis operibus crastina die primo Diluvio ad hoc solummodo Litaniarum iuxta distributionem inferius designatam, devota mente cum lachrymis veniamus. Nullus vestrum ad terrena opera in agro exeat, nullus quolibet negotium agere præsumat; ostentemus ad sanctam genetricem Domini Ecclesiam convenientes, qui simul omnes peccavimus, simul omnes mala quæ fecimus deploramus: Ut districtus Iudex dum culpas nostras nos punire considerat, ipse a sententia propositæ damnationis parcat. Litania Clericorum exeat ab Ecclesia beati Joannis Baptiste. Litania Virorum, ab Ecclesia beati Martyris Marcelli. Litania Monachorum, ab Ecclesia Martyrum Joannis & Pauli. Litania Ancillarum Dei, ab Ecclesia beatorum Martyrum Cosma & Damiani. Litania Feminarum conjugatorum ab Ecclesia beati primi Martyris Stephani. Litania Viduarum, ab Ecclesia beati Martyris Vitalis. Litania pauperum & Infantum, ab Ecclesia beati Martyris Cecilie. Facta sunt hæc in Basilica Sanctæ Sabine sub die quarto Kal. Sept. Indictione xiii.

F I N I S.



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